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NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

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The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 13 September to 23 December 2016, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the seventy-first session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 71/1

Adopted at the 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.1

71/1. New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

The General Assembly

Adopts the following outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants:

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants

We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 September 2016 to address the question of large movements of refugees and migrants, have adopted the following political declaration.

I. Introduction

1. Since earliest times, humanity has been on the move. Some people move in search of new economic opportunities and horizons. Others move to escape armed conflict, poverty, food insecurity, persecution, terrorism, or human rights violations and abuses. Still others do so in response to the adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters (some of which may be linked to climate change), or other environmental factors. Many move, indeed, for a combination of these reasons.

2. We have considered today how the international community should best respond to the growing global phenomenon of large movements of refugees and migrants.

3. We are witnessing in today's world an unprecedented level of human mobility. More people than ever before live in a country other than the one in which they were born. Migrants are present in all countries in the world. Most of them move without incident. In 2015, their number surpassed 244 million, growing at a rate faster than the world's population. However, there are roughly 65 million forcibly displaced persons, including over 21 million refugees, 3 million asylum seekers and over 40 million internally displaced persons.

4. In adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] one year ago, we recognized clearly the positive contribution made by migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development. Our world is a better place for that contribution. The benefits and opportunities of safe, orderly and regular migration are substantial and are often underestimated. Forced displacement and irregular migration in large movements, on the other hand, often present complex challenges.

5. We reaffirm the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We reaffirm also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2] and recall the core international human rights treaties. We reaffirm and will fully protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of status; all are rights holders. Our response will demonstrate full respect for international law and international human rights law and, where applicable, international refugee law and international humanitarian law.

6. Though their treatment is governed by separate legal frameworks, refugees and migrants have the same universal human rights and fundamental freedoms. They also face many common challenges and have similar vulnerabilities, including in the context of large movements. "Large movements" may be understood to reflect a number of considerations, including: the number of people arriving, the economic, social and geographical context, the capacity of a receiving State to respond and the impact of a movement that is sudden or prolonged. The term does not, for example, cover regular flows of migrants from one country to another. "Large movements" may involve mixed flows of people, whether refugees or migrants, who move for different reasons but who may use similar routes.

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[1] Resolution 70/1.

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

7. Large movements of refugees and migrants have political, economic, social, developmental, humanitarian and human rights ramifications, which cross all borders. These are global phenomena that call for global approaches and global solutions. No one State can manage such movements on its own. Neighbouring or transit countries, mostly developing countries, are disproportionately affected. Their capacities have been severely stretched in many cases, affecting their own social and economic cohesion and development. In addition, protracted refugee crises are now commonplace, with long-term repercussions for those involved and for their host countries and communities. Greater international cooperation is needed to assist host countries and communities.

8. We declare our profound solidarity with, and support for, the millions of people in different parts of the world who, for reasons beyond their control, are forced to uproot themselves and their families from their homes.

9. Refugees and migrants in large movements often face a desperate ordeal. Many take great risks, embarking on perilous journeys, which many may not survive. Some feel compelled to employ the services of criminal groups, including smugglers, and others may fall prey to such groups or become victims of trafficking. Even if they reach their destination, they face an uncertain reception and a precarious future.

10. We are determined to save lives. Our challenge is above all moral and humanitarian. Equally, we are determined to find long-term and sustainable solutions. We will combat with all the means at our disposal the abuses and exploitation suffered by countless refugees and migrants in vulnerable situations.

11. We acknowledge a shared responsibility to manage large movements of refugees and migrants in a humane, sensitive, compassionate and people-centred manner. We will do so through international cooperation, while recognizing that there are varying capacities and resources to respond to these movements. International cooperation and, in particular, cooperation among countries of origin or nationality, transit and destiaation, has never been more important; "win-win" cooperation in this area has profound benefits for humanity. Large movements of refugees and migrants must have comprehensive policy support, assistance and protection, consistent with States' obligations under international law. We also recall our obligations to fully respect their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and we stress their need to live their lives in safety and dignity. We pledge our support to those affected today as well as to those who will be part of future large movements.

12. We are determined to address the root causes of large movements of refugees and migrants, including through increased efforts aimed at early prevention of crisis situations based on preventive diplomacy. We will address them also through the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflict, greater coordination of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts, the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and the protection of human rights. Equally, we will address movements caused by poverty, instability, marginalization and exclusion and the lack of development and economic opportunities, with particular reference to the most vulnerable populations. We will work with countries of origin to strengthen their capacities.

13. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law. We recall that our obligations under international law prohibit discrimination of any kind on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Yet in many parts of the world we are witnessing, with great concern, increasingly xenophobic and racist responses to refugees and migrants.

14. We strongly condemn acts and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against refugees and migrants, and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief. Diversity enriches every society and contributes to social cohesion. Demonizing refugees or migrants offends profoundly against the values of dignity and equality for every human being, to which we have committed ourselves. Gathered today at the United Nations, the birthplace and custodian of these universal values, we deplore all manifestations of xenophobia, racial discrimination and intolerance. We will take a range of steps to counter such attitudes and behaviour, in particular with regard to hate crimes, hate speech and racial violence. We welcome the global campaign proposed by the Secretary-General to counter xenophobia and we will implement it in cooperation with the United Nations and all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with international law. The campaign will emphasize, inter alia, direct personal contact between host communities and refugees and migrants and will highlight the positive contributions made by the latter, as well as our common humanity.

15. We invite the private sector and civil society, including refugee and migrant organizations, to participate in multi-stakeholder alliances to support efforts to implement the commitments we are making today.

16. In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we pledged that no one would be left behind. We declared that we wished to see the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. We said also that we would endeavour to reach the furthest behind first. We reaffirm today our commitments that relate to the specific needs of migrants or refugees. The 2030 Agenda makes clear, inter alia, that we will facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies. The needs of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants are explicitly recognized.

17. The implementation of all relevant provisions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will enable the positive contribution that migrants are making to sustainable development to be reinforced. At the same time, it will address many of the root causes of forced displacement, helping to create more favourable conditions in countries of origin. Meeting today, a year after our adoption of the 2030 Agenda, we are determined to realize the full potential of that Agenda for refugees and migrants.

18. We recall the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[3] and its recommendations concerning measures to mitigate risks associated with disasters. States that have signed and ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change[4] welcome that agreement and are committed to its implementation. We reaffirm the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[5] including its provisions that are applicable to refugees and migrants.

19. We take note of the report of the Secretary-General, entitled "In safety and dignity: addressing large movements of refugees and migrants",[6] prepared pursuant to General Assembly decision 70/539 of 22 December 2015, in preparation for this high-level meeting. While recognizing that the following conferences either did not have an intergovernmentally agreed outcome or were regional in scope, we take note of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, the high-level meeting on global responsibility-sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees, convened by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 30 March 2016, the conference on "Supporting Syria and the Region", held in London on 4 February 2016, and the pledging conference on Somali refugees, held in Brussels on 21 October 2015. While recognizing that the following initiatives are regional in nature and apply only to those countries participating in them, we take note of regional initiatives such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the European Union-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative and the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants (the Khartoum Process), the Rabat Process, the Valletta Action Plan and the Brazil Declaration and Plan of Action.

20. We recognize the very large number of people who are displaced within national borders and the possibility that such persons might seek protection and assistance in other countries as refugees or migrants. We note the need for reflection on effective strategies to ensure adequate protection and assistance for internally displaced persons and to prevent and reduce such displacement.

Commitments

21. We have endorsed today a set of commitments that apply to both refugees and migrants, as well as separate sets of commitments for refugees and migrants. We do so taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. We reaffirm our commitment to international law and emphasize that the present declaration and its annexes are to be implemented in a manner that is consistent with the rights and obligations of States under international law. While some commitments are mainly applicable to one group, they may also be applicable to the other. Furthermore, while they are all framed in the context of the large movements we are considering today, many may be applicable also to regular migration. Annex I to the present declaration contains a comprehensive refugee response framework and outlines steps towards the achievement of a global compact on refugees in 2018, while annex II sets out steps towards the achievement of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018.

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[3] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[4] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[5] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[6] A/70/59.

II. Commitments that apply to both refugees and migrants

22. Underlining the importance of a comprehensive approach to the issues involved, we will ensure a people-centred, sensitive, humane, dignified, gender-responsive and prompt reception for all persons arriving in our countries, and particularly those in large movements, whether refugees or migrants. We will also ensure full respect and protection for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

23. We recognize and will address, in accordance with our obligations under international law, the special needs of all people in vulnerable situations who are travelling within large movements of refugees and migrants, including women at risk, children, especially those who are unaccompanied or separated from their families, members of ethnic and religious minorities, victims of violence, older persons, persons with disabilities, persons who are discriminated against on any basis, indigenous peoples, victims of human trafficking, and victims of exploitation and abuse in the context of the smuggling of migrants.

24. Recognizing that States have rights and responsibilities to manage and control their borders, we will implement border control procedures in conformity with applicable obligations under international law, including international human rights law and international refugee law. We will promote international cooperation on border control and management as an important element of security for States, including issues relating to battling transnational organized crime, terrorism and illicit trade. We will ensure that public officials and law enforcement officers who work in border areas are trained to uphold the human rights of all persons crossing, or seeking to cross, international borders. We will strengthen international border management cooperation, including in relation to training and the exchange of best practices. We will intensify support in this area and help to build capacity as appropriate. We reaffirm that, in line with the principle of non-refoulement, individuals must not be returned at borders. We acknowledge also that, while upholding these obligations and principles, States are entitled to take measures to prevent irregular border crossings.

25. We will make efforts to collect accurate information regarding large movements of refugees and migrants. We will also take measures to identify correctly their nationalities, as well as their reasons for movement. We will take measures to identify those who are seeking international protection as refugees.

26. We will continue to protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, in transit and after arrival. We stress the importance of addressing the immediate needs of persons who have been exposed to physical or psychological abuse while in transit upon their arrival, without discrimination and without regard to legal or migratory status or means of transportation. For this purpose, we will consider appropriate support to strengthen, at their request, capacity-building for countries that receive large movements of refugees and migrants.

27. We are determined to address unsafe movements of refugees and migrants, with particular reference to irregular movements of refugees and migrants. We will do so without prejudice to the right to seek asylum. We will combat the exploitation, abuse and discrimination suffered by many refugees and migrants.

28. We express our profound concern at the large number of people who have lost their lives in transit. We commend the efforts already made to rescue people in distress at sea. We commit to intensifying international cooperation on the strengthening of search and rescue mechanisms. We will also work to improve the availability of accurate data on the whereabouts of people and vessels stranded at sea. In addition, we will strengthen support for rescue efforts over land along dangerous or isolated routes. We will draw attention to the risks involved in the use of such routes in the first instance.

29. We recognize and will take steps to address the particular vulnerabilities of women and children during the journey from country of origin to country of arrival. This includes their potential exposure to discrimination and exploitation, as well as to sexual, physical and psychological abuse, violence, human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery.

30. We encourage States to address the vulnerabilities to HIV and the specific health-care needs experienced by migrant and mobile populations, as well as by refugees and crisis-affected populations, and to take steps to reduce stigma, discrimination and violence, as well as to review policies related to restrictions on entry based on HIV status, with a view to eliminating such restrictions and the return of people on the basis of their HIV status, and to support their access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

31. We will ensure that our responses to large movements of refugees and migrants mainstream a gender perspective, promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and fully respect and protect the

human rights of women and girls. We will combat sexual and gender-based violence to the greatest extent possible. We will provide access to sexual and reproductive health-care services. We will tackle the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against refugee and migrant women and girls. At the same time, recognizing the significant contribution and leadership of women in refugee and migrant communities, we will work to ensure their full, equal and meaningful participation in the development of local solutions and opportunities. We will take into consideration the different needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, girls, boys and men.

32. We will protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all refugee and migrant children, regardless of their status, and giving primary consideration at all times to the best interests of the child. This will apply particularly to unaccompanied children and those separated from their families; we will refer their care to the relevant national child protection authorities and other relevant authorities. We will comply with our obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.[7] We will work to provide for basic health, education and psychosocial development and for the registration of all births on our territories. We are determined to ensure that all children are receiving education within a few months of arrival, and we will prioritize budgetary provision to facilitate this, including support for host countries as required. We will strive to provide refugee and migrant children with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their rights and capabilities.

33. Reaffirming that all individuals who have crossed or are seeking to cross international borders are entitled to due process in the assessment of their legal status, entry and stay, we will consider reviewing policies that criminalize cross-border movements. We will also pursue alternatives to detention while these assessments are under way. Furthermore, recognizing that detention for the purposes of determining migration status is seldom, if ever, in the best interest of the child, we will use it only as a measure of last resort, in the least restrictive setting, for the shortest possible period of time, under conditions that respect their human rights and in a manner that takes into account, as a primary consideration, the best interest of the child, and we will work towards the ending of this practice.

34. Reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the two relevant Protocols thereto,[8] we encourage the ratification of, accession to and implementation of relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants.

35. We recognize that refugees and migrants in large movements are at greater risk of being trafficked and of being subjected to forced labour. We will, with full respect for our obligations under international law, vigorously combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling with a view to their elimination, including through targeted measures to identify victims of human trafficking or those at risk of trafficking. We will provide support for the victims of human trafficking. We will work to prevent human trafficking among those affected by displacement.

36. With a view to disrupting and eliminating the criminal networks involved, we will review our national legislation to ensure conformity with our obligations under international law on migrant smuggling, human trafficking and maritime safety. We will implement the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.[9] We will establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human trafficking policies. We note regional initiatives such as the African Union-Horn of Africa Initiative on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, the Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the European Union Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016, and the Work Plans against Trafficking in Persons in the Western Hemisphere. We welcome reinforced technical cooperation, on a regional and bilateral basis, between countries of origin, transit and destination on the prevention of human trafficking and migrant smuggling and the prosecution of traffickers and smugglers.

37. We favour an approach to addressing the drivers and root causes of large movements of refugees and migrants, including forced displacement and protracted crises, which would, inter alia, reduce vulnerability, combat poverty, improve self-reliance and resilience, ensure a strengthened humanitarian-development nexus, and improve coordination with peacebuilding efforts. This will involve coordinated prioritized responses based on joint and impartial needs assessments and facilitating cooperation across institutional mandates.

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[8] Ibid., vols. 2225, 2237 and 2241, No. 39574.

[9] Resolution 64/293.

38. We will take measures to provide, on the basis of bilateral, regional and international cooperation, humanitarian financing that is adequate, flexible, predictable and consistent, to enable host countries and communities to respond both to the immediate humanitarian needs and to their longer-term development needs. There is a need to address gaps in humanitarian funding, considering additional resources as appropriate. We look forward to close cooperation in this regard among Member States, United Nations entities and other actors and between the United Nations and international financial institutions such as the World Bank, where appropriate. We envisage innovative financing responses, risk financing for affected communities and the implementation of other efficiencies such as reducing management costs, improving transparency, increasing the use of national responders, expanding the use of cash assistance, reducing duplication, increasing engagement with beneficiaries, diminishing earmarked funding and harmonizing reporting, so as to ensure a more effective use of existing resources.

39. We commit to combating xenophobia, racism and discrimination in our societies against refugees and migrants. We will take measures to improve their integration and inclusion, as appropriate, and with particular reference to access to education, health care, justice and language training. We recognize that these measures will reduce the risks of marginalization and radicalization. National policies relating to integration and inclusion will be developed, as appropriate, in conjunction with relevant civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations, the private sector, employers' and workers' organizations and other stakeholders. We also note the obligation for refugees and migrants to observe the laws and regulations of their host countries.

40. We recognize the importance of improved data collection, particularly by national authorities, and will enhance international cooperation to this end, including through capacity-building, financial support and technical assistance. Such data should be disaggregated by sex and age and include information on regular and irregular flows, the economic impacts of migration and refugee movements, human trafficking, the needs of refugees, migrants and host communities and other issues. We will do so consistent with our national legislation on data protection, if applicable, and our international obligations related to privacy, as applicable.

III. Commitments for migrants

41. We are committed to protecting the safety, dignity and human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migratory status, at all times. We will cooperate closely to facilitate and ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, including return and readmission, taking into account national legislation.

42. We commit to safeguarding the rights of, protecting the interests of and assisting our migrant communities abroad, including through consular protection, assistance and cooperation, in accordance with relevant international law. We reaffirm that everyone has the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country. We recall at the same time that each State has a sovereign right to determine whom to admit to its territory, subject to that State's international obligations. We recall also that States must readmit their returning nationals and ensure that they are duly received without undue delay, following confirmation of their nationalities in accordance with national legislation. We will take measures to inform migrants about the various processes relating to their arrival and stay in countries of transit, destination and return.

43. We commit to addressing the drivers that create or exacerbate large movements. We will analyse and respond to the factors, including in countries of origin, which lead or contribute to large movements. We will cooperate to create conditions that allow communities and individuals to live in peace and prosperity in their homelands. Migration should be a choice, not a necessity. We will take measures, inter alia, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, whose objectives include eradicating extreme poverty and inequality, revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies based on international human rights and the rule of law, creating conditions for balanced, sustainable and inclusive economic growth and employment, combating environmental degradation and ensuring effective responses to natural disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change.

44. Recognizing that the lack of educational opportunities is often a push factor for migration, particularly for young people, we commit to strengthening capacities in countries of origin, including in educational institutions. We commit also to enhancing employment opportunities, particularly for young people, in countries of origin. We acknowledge also the impact of migration on human capital in countries of origin.

45. We will consider reviewing our migration policies with a view to examining their possible unintended negative consequences.

46. We also recognize that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. Migrants can make positive and profound contributions to economic and social development in their host societies and to global wealth creation. They can help to respond to demographic trends, labour shortages and other challenges in host societies, and add fresh skills and dynamism to the latter's economies. We recognize the development benefits of migration to countries of origin, including through the involvement of diasporas in economic development and reconstruction. We will commit to reducing the costs of labour migration and promote ethical recruitment policies and practices between sending and receiving countries. We will promote faster, cheaper and safer transfers of migrant remittances in both source and recipient countries, including through a reduction in transaction costs, as well as the facilitation of interaction between diasporas and their countries of origin. We would like these contributions to be more widely recognized and indeed, strengthened in the context of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

47. We will ensure that all aspects of migration are integrated into global, regional and national sustainable development plans and into humanitarian, peacebuilding and human rights policies and programmes.

48. We call upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying, or acceding to, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.[10] We call also upon States that have not done so to consider acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions, as appropriate. We note, in addition, that migrants enjoy rights and protection under various provisions of international law.

49. We commit to strengthening global governance of migration. We therefore warmly support and welcome the agreement to bring the International Organization for Migration, an organization regarded by its Member States as the global lead agency on migration, into a closer legal and working relationship with the United Nations as a related organization.[11] We look forward to the implementation of this agreement, which will assist and protect migrants more comprehensively, help States to address migration issues and promote better coherence between migration and related policy domains.

50. We will assist, impartially and on the basis of needs, migrants in countries that are experiencing conflicts or natural disasters, working, as applicable, in coordination with the relevant national authorities. While recognizing that not all States are participating in them, we note in this regard the Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change resulting from the Nansen Initiative.

51. We take note of the work done by the Global Migration Group to develop principles and practical guidance on the protection of the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations.

52. We will consider developing non-binding guiding principles and voluntary guidelines, consistent with international law, on the treatment of migrants in vulnerable situations, especially unaccompanied and separated children who do not qualify for international protection as refugees and who may need assistance. The guiding principles and guidelines will be developed using a State-led process with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders and with input from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant United Nations system entities. They would complement national efforts to protect and assist migrants.

53. We welcome the willingness of some States to provide temporary protection against return to migrants who do not qualify for refugee status and who are unable to return home owing to conditions in their countries.

54. We will build on existing bilateral, regional and global cooperation and partnership mechanisms, in accordance with international law, for facilitating migration in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We will strengthen cooperation to this end among countries of origin, transit and destination, including through regional consultative processes, international organizations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, regional economic organizations and local government authorities, as well as with relevant

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[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[11] Resolution 70/296, annex.

private sector recruiters and employers, labour unions, civil society and migrant and diaspora groups. We recognize the particular needs of local authorities, who are the first receivers of migrants.

55. We recognize the progress made on international migration and development issues within the United Nations system, including the first and second High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development. We will support enhanced global and regional dialogue and deepened collaboration on migration, particularly through exchanges of best practice and mutual learning and the development of national or regional initiatives. We note in this regard the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and acknowledge the importance of multi-stakeholder dialogues on migration and development.

56. We affirm that children should not be criminalized or subject to punitive measures because of their migration status or that of their parents.

57. We will consider facilitating opportunities for safe, orderly and regular migration, including, as appropriate, employment creation, labour mobility at all skills levels, circular migration, family reunification and education-related opportunities. We will pay particular attention to the application of minimum labour standards for migrant workers regardless of their status, as well as to recruitment and other migration-related costs, remittance flows, transfers of skills and knowledge and the creation of employment opportunities for young people.

58. We strongly encourage cooperation among countries of origin or nationality, countries of transit, countries of destination and other relevant countries in ensuring that migrants who do not have permission to stay in the country of destination can return, in accordance with international obligations of all States, to their country of origin or nationality in a safe, orderly and dignified manner, preferably on a voluntary basis, taking into account national legislation in line with international law. We note that cooperation on return and readmission forms an important element of international cooperation on migration. Such cooperation would include ensuring proper identification and the provision of relevant travel documents. Any type of return, whether voluntary or otherwise, must be consistent with our obligations under international human rights law and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement. It should also respect the rules of international law and must in addition be conducted in keeping with the best interests of children and with due process. While recognizing that they apply only to States that have entered into them, we acknowledge that existing readmission agreements should be fully implemented. We support enhanced reception and reintegration assistance for those who are returned. Particular attention should be paid to the needs of migrants in vulnerable situations who return, such as children, older persons, persons with disabilities and victims of trafficking.

59. We reaffirm our commitment to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, and to provide access to basic health, education and psychosocial services, ensuring that the best interests of the child is a primary consideration in all relevant policies.

60. We recognize the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into migration policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls.

61. While recognizing the contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promoting the well-being of migrants and their integration into societies, especially at times of extremely vulnerable conditions, and the support of the international community to the efforts of such organizations, we encourage deeper interaction between Governments and civil society to find responses to the challenges and the opportunities posed by international migration.

62. We note that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, Mr. Peter Sutherland, will be providing, before the end of 2016, a report that will propose ways of strengthening international cooperation and the engagement of the United Nations on migration.

63. We commit to launching, in 2016, a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration at an intergovernmental conference to be held in 2018. We invite the President of the General Assembly to make arrangements for the determination of the modalities, timeline and other practicalities relating to the negotiation process. Further details regarding the process are set out in annex II to the present declaration.

IV. Commitments for refugees

64. Recognizing that armed conflict, persecution and violence, including terrorism, are among the factors which give rise to large refugee movements, we will work to address the root causes of such crisis situations and to prevent or resolve conflict by peaceful means. We will work in every way possible for the peaceful settlement of disputes, the prevention of conflict and the achievement of the long-term political solutions required. Preventive diplomacy and early response to conflict on the part of States and the United Nations are critical. The promotion of human rights is also critical. In addition, we will promote good governance, the rule of law, effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, and sustainable development at the international, regional, national and local levels. Recognizing that displacement could be reduced if international humanitarian law were respected by all parties to armed conflict, we renew our commitment to uphold humanitarian principles and international humanitarian law. We confirm also our respect for the rules that safeguard civilians in conflict.

65. We reaffirm the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[12] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[13] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime. We recognize the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody. We note with satisfaction that 148 States are now parties to one or both instruments. We encourage States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments and States parties with reservations to give consideration to withdrawing them. We recognize also that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees.

66. We reaffirm that international refugee law, international human rights law and international humanitarian law provide the legal framework to strengthen the protection of refugees. We will ensure, in this context, protection for all who need it. We take note of regional refugee instruments, such as the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa[14] and the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees.

67. We reaffirm respect for the institution of asylum and the right to seek asylum. We reaffirm also respect for and adherence to the fundamental principle of non-refoulement in accordance with international refugee law.

68. We underline the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime. We recognize the burdens that large movements of refugees place on national resources, especially in the case of developing countries. To address the needs of refugees and receiving States, we commit to a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States.

69. We believe that a comprehensive refugee response should be developed and initiated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in close coordination with relevant States, including host countries, and involving other relevant United Nations entities, for each situation involving large movements of refugees. This should involve a multi-stakeholder approach that includes national and local authorities, international organizations, international financial institutions, civil society partners (including faith-based organizations, diaspora organizations and academia), the private sector, the media and refugees themselves. A comprehensive framework of this kind is annexed to the present declaration.

70. We will ensure that refugee admission policies or arrangements are in line with our obligations under international law. We wish to see administrative barriers eased, with a view to accelerating refugee admission procedures to the extent possible. We will, where appropriate, assist States to conduct early and effective registration and documentation of refugees. We will also promote access for children to child-appropriate procedures. At the same time, we recognize that the ability of refugees to lodge asylum claims in the country of their choice may be regulated, subject to the safeguard that they will have access to, and enjoyment of, protection elsewhere.

71. We encourage the adoption of measures to facilitate access to civil registration and documentation for refugees. We recognize in this regard the importance of early and effective registration and documentation, as a protection tool and to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance.

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[13] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[14] Ibid., vol. 1001, No. 14691.

72. We recognize that statelessness can be a root cause of forced displacement and that forced displacement, in turn, can lead to statelessness. We take note of the campaign of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to end statelessness within a decade and we encourage States to consider actions they could take to reduce the incidence of statelessness. We encourage those States that have not yet acceded to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[15] and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness[16] to consider doing so.

73. We recognize that refugee camps should be the exception and, to the extent possible, a temporary measure in response to an emergency. We note that 60 per cent of refugees worldwide are in urban settings and only a minority are in camps. We will ensure that the delivery of assistance to refugees and host communities is adapted to the relevant context. We underline that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements. We will work to ensure that this character is not compromised by the presence or activities of armed elements and to ensure that camps are not used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character. We will work to strengthen security in refugee camps and surrounding local communities, at the request and with the consent of the host country.

74. We welcome the extraordinarily generous contribution made to date by countries that host large refugee populations and will work to increase the support for those countries. We call for pledges made at relevant conferences to be disbursed promptly.

75. We commit to working towards solutions from the outset of a refugee situation. We will actively promote durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, with a focus on sustainable and timely return in safety and dignity. This will encompass repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. We encourage States and other relevant actors to provide support through, inter alia, the allocation of funds.

76. We reaffirm that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin.

77. We intend to expand the number and range of legal pathways available for refugees to be admitted to or resettled in third countries. In addition to easing the plight of refugees, this has benefits for countries that host large refugee populations and for third countries that receive refugees.

78. We urge States that have not yet established resettlement programmes to consider doing so at the earliest opportunity. Those which have already done so are encouraged to consider increasing the size of their programmes. It is our aim to provide resettlement places and other legal pathways for admission on a scale that would enable the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to be met.

79. We will consider the expansion of existing humanitarian admission programmes, possible temporary evacuation programmes, including evacuation for medical reasons, flexible arrangements to assist family reunification, private sponsorship for individual refugees and opportunities for labour mobility for refugees, including through private sector partnerships, and for education, such as scholarships and student visas.

80. We are committed to providing humanitarian assistance to refugees so as to ensure essential support in key life-saving sectors, such as health care, shelter, food, water and sanitation. We commit to supporting host countries and communities in this regard, including by using locally available knowledge and capacities. We will support community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities.

81. We are determined to provide quality primary and secondary education in safe learning environments for all refugee children, and to do so within a few months of the initial displacement. We commit to providing host countries with support in this regard. Access to quality education, including for host communities, gives fundamental protection to children and youth in displacement contexts, particularly in situations of conflict and crisis.

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[15] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[16] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

82. We will support early childhood education for refugee children. We will also promote tertiary education, skills training and vocational education. In conflict and crisis situations, higher education serves as a powerful driver for change, shelters and protects a critical group of young men and women by maintaining their hopes for the future, fosters inclusion and non-discrimination and acts as a catalyst for the recovery and rebuilding of post-conflict countries.

83. We will work to ensure that the basic health needs of refugee communities are met and that women and girls have access to essential health-care services. We commit to providing host countries with support in this regard. We will also develop national strategies for the protection of refugees within the framework of national social protection systems, as appropriate.

84. Welcoming the positive steps taken by individual States, we encourage host Governments to consider opening their labour markets to refugees. We will work to strengthen host countries' and communities' resilience, assisting them, for example, with employment creation and income generation schemes. In this regard, we recognize the potential of young people and will work to create the conditions for growth, employment and education that will allow them to be the drivers of development.

85. In order to meet the challenges posed by large movements of refugees, close coordination will be required among a range of humanitarian and development actors. We commit to putting those most affected at the centre of planning and action. Host Governments and communities may need support from relevant United Nations entities, local authorities, international financial institutions, regional development banks, bilateral donors, the private sector and civil society. We strongly encourage joint responses involving all such actors in order to strengthen the nexus between humanitarian and development actors, facilitate cooperation across institutional mandates and, by helping to build self-reliance and resilience, lay a basis for sustainable solutions. In addition to meeting direct humanitarian and development needs, we will work to support environmental, social and infrastructural rehabilitation in areas affected by large movements of refugees.

86. We note with concern a significant gap between the needs of refugees and the available resources. We encourage support from a broader range of donors and will take measures to make humanitarian financing more flexible and predictable, with diminished earmarking and increased multi-year funding, in order to close this gap. United Nations entities such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and other relevant organizations require sufficient funding to be able to carry out their activities effectively and in a predictable manner. We welcome the increasing engagement of the World Bank and multilateral development banks and improvements in access to concessional development financing for affected communities. It is clear, furthermore, that private sector investment in support of refugee communities and host countries will be of critical importance over the coming years. Civil society is also a key partner in every region of the world in responding to the needs of refugees.

87. We note that the United States of America, Canada, Ethiopia, Germany, Jordan, Mexico, Sweden and the Secretary-General will host a high-level meeting on refugees on 20 September 2016.

V. Follow-up to and review of our commitments

88. We recognize that arrangements are needed to ensure systematic follow-up to and review of all of the commitments we are making today. Accordingly, we request the Secretary-General to ensure that the progress made by Member States and the United Nations in implementing the commitments made at today's high-level meeting will be the subject of periodic assessments provided to the General Assembly with reference, as appropriate, to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

89. In addition, a role in reviewing relevant aspects of the present declaration should be envisaged for the periodic High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development and for the annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the General Assembly.

90. In recognition of the need for significant financial and programme support to host countries and communities affected by large movements of refugees and migrants, we request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on ways of achieving greater efficiency, operational effectiveness and system-wide coherence, as well as ways of strengthening the engagement of the United Nations with international financial institutions and the private sector, with a view to fully implementing the commitments outlined in the present declaration.

Annex I

Comprehensive refugee response framework

1. The scale and nature of refugee displacement today requires us to act in a comprehensive and predictable manner in large-scale refugee movements. Through a comprehensive refugee response based on the principles of international cooperation and on burden- and responsibility-sharing, we are better able to protect and assist refugees and to support the host States and communities involved.

2. The comprehensive refugee response framework will be developed and initiated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in close coordination with relevant States, including host countries, and involving other relevant United Nations entities, for each situation involving large movements of refugees. A comprehensive refugee response should involve a multi-stakeholder approach, including national and local authorities, international organizations, international financial institutions, regional organizations, regional coordination and partnership mechanisms, civil society partners, including faith-based organizations and academia, the private sector, media and the refugees themselves.

3. While each large movement of refugees will differ in nature, the elements noted below provide a framework for a comprehensive and people-centred refugee response, which is in accordance with international law and best international practice and adapted to the specific context.

4. We envisage a comprehensive refugee response framework for each situation involving large movements of refugees, including in protracted situations, as an integral and distinct part of an overall humanitarian response, where it exists, and which would normally contain the elements set out below.

Reception and admission

5. At the outset of a large movement of refugees, receiving States, bearing in mind their national capacities and international legal obligations, in cooperation, as appropriate, with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, international organizations and other partners and with the support of other States as requested, in conformity with international obligations, would:

(*a*) Ensure, to the extent possible, that measures are in place to identify persons in need of international protection as refugees, provide for adequate, safe and dignified reception conditions, with a particular emphasis on persons with specific needs, victims of human trafficking, child protection, family unity, and prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence, and support the critical contribution of receiving communities and societies in this regard;

(*b*) Take account of the rights, specific needs, contributions and voices of women and girl refugees;

(*c*) Assess and meet the essential needs of refugees, including by providing access to adequate safe drinking water, sanitation, food, nutrition, shelter, psychosocial support and health care, including sexual and reproductive health, and providing assistance to host countries and communities in this regard, as required;

(*d*) Register individually and document those seeking protection as refugees, including in the first country where they seek asylum, as quickly as possible upon their arrival. To achieve this, assistance may be needed, in areas such as biometric technology and other technical and financial support, to be coordinated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with relevant actors and partners, where necessary;

(*e*) Use the registration process to identify specific assistance needs and protection arrangements, where possible, including but not exclusively for refugees with special protection concerns, such as women at risk, children, especially unaccompanied children and children separated from their families, child-headed and single-parent households, victims of trafficking, victims of trauma and survivors of sexual violence, as well as refugees with disabilities and older persons;

(*f*) Work to ensure the immediate birth registration for all refugee children born on their territory and provide adequate assistance at the earliest opportunity with obtaining other necessary documents, as appropriate, relating to civil status, such as marriage, divorce and death certificates;

(*g*) Put in place measures, with appropriate legal safeguards, which uphold refugees' human rights, with a view to ensuring the security of refugees, as well as measures to respond to host countries' legitimate security concerns;

(*h*) Take measures to maintain the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps and settlements;

(*i*) Take steps to ensure the credibility of asylum systems, including through collaboration among the countries of origin, transit and destination and to facilitate the return and readmission of those who do not qualify for refugee status.

Support for immediate and ongoing needs

6. States, in cooperation with multilateral donors and private sector partners, as appropriate, would, in coordination with receiving States:

(*a*) Mobilize adequate financial and other resources to cover the humanitarian needs identified within the comprehensive refugee response framework;

(*b*) Provide resources in a prompt, predictable, consistent and flexible manner, including through wider partnerships involving State, civil society, faith-based and private sector partners;

(*c*) Take measures to extend the finance lending schemes that exist for developing countries to middle-income countries hosting large numbers of refugees, bearing in mind the economic and social costs to those countries;

(*d*) Consider establishing development funding mechanisms for such countries;

(*e*) Provide assistance to host countries to protect the environment and strengthen infrastructure affected by large movements of refugees;

(*f*) Increase support for cash-based delivery mechanisms and other innovative means for the efficient provision of humanitarian assistance, where appropriate, while increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries.

7. Host States, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other United Nations entities, financial institutions and other relevant partners, would, as appropriate:

(*a*) Provide prompt, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for refugees in accordance with existing humanitarian principles;

(*b*) Deliver assistance, to the extent possible, through appropriate national and local service providers, such as public authorities for health, education, social services and child protection;

(*c*) Encourage and empower refugees, at the outset of an emergency phase, to establish supportive systems and networks that involve refugees and host communities and are age- and gender-sensitive, with a particular emphasis on the protection and empowerment of women and children and other persons with specific needs;

(*d*) Support local civil society partners that contribute to humanitarian responses, in recognition of their complementary contribution;

(*e*) Ensure close cooperation and encourage joint planning, as appropriate, between humanitarian and development actors and other relevant actors.

Support for host countries and communities

8. States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and relevant partners would:

(*a*) Implement a joint, impartial and rapid risk and/or impact assessment, in anticipation or after the onset of a large refugee movement, in order to identify and prioritize the assistance required for refugees, national and local authorities, and communities affected by a refugee presence;

(*b*) Incorporate, where appropriate, the comprehensive refugee response framework in national development planning, in order to strengthen the delivery of essential services and infrastructure for the benefit of host communities and refugees;

(*c*) Work to provide adequate resources, without prejudice to official development assistance, for national and local government authorities and other service providers in view of the increased needs and pressures on social services. Programmes should benefit refugees and the host country and communities.

Durable solutions

9. We recognize that millions of refugees around the world at present have no access to timely and durable solutions, the securing of which is one of the principal goals of international protection. The success of the search for solutions depends in large measure on resolute and sustained international cooperation and support.

10. We believe that actions should be taken in pursuit of the following durable solutions: voluntary repatriation, local solutions and resettlement and complementary pathways for admission. These actions should include the elements set out below.

11. We reaffirm the primary goal of bringing about conditions that would help refugees return in safety and dignity to their countries and emphasize the need to tackle the root causes of violence and armed conflict and to achieve necessary political solutions and the peaceful settlement of disputes, as well as to assist in reconstruction efforts. In this context, States of origin/nationality would:

(*a*) Acknowledge that everyone has the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country;

(*b*) Respect this right and also respect the obligation to receive back their nationals, which should occur in a safe, dignified and humane manner and with full respect for human rights in accordance with obligations under international law;

(*c*) Provide necessary identification and travel documents;

(*d*) Facilitate the socioeconomic reintegration of returnees;

(*e*) Consider measures to enable the restitution of property.

12. To ensure sustainable return and reintegration, States, United Nations organizations and relevant partners would:

(*a*) Recognize that the voluntary nature of repatriation is necessary as long as refugees continue to require international protection, that is, as long as they cannot regain fully the protection of their own country;

(*b*) Plan for and support measures to encourage voluntary and informed repatriation, reintegration and reconciliation;

(*c*) Support countries of origin/nationality, where appropriate, including through funding for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and with the necessary legal safeguards to enable refugees to access legal, physical and other support mechanisms needed for the restoration of national protection and their reintegration;

(*d*) Support efforts to foster reconciliation and dialogue, particularly with refugee communities and with the equal participation of women and youth, and to ensure respect for the rule of law at the national and local levels;

(*e*) Facilitate the participation of refugees, including women, in peace and reconciliation processes, and ensure that the outcomes of such processes duly support their return in safety and dignity;

(*f*) Ensure that national development planning incorporates the specific needs of returnees and promotes sustainable and inclusive reintegration, as a measure to prevent future displacement.

13. Host States, bearing in mind their capacities and international legal obligations, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, where appropriate, and other United Nations entities, financial institutions and other relevant partners, would:

(*a*) Provide legal stay to those seeking and in need of international protection as refugees, recognizing that any decision regarding permanent settlement in any form, including possible naturalization, rests with the host country;

(*b*) Take measures to foster self-reliance by pledging to expand opportunities for refugees to access, as appropriate, education, health care and services, livelihood opportunities and labour markets, without discriminating among refugees and in a manner which also supports host communities;

(*c*) Take measures to enable refugees, including in particular women and youth, to make the best use of their skills and capacities, recognizing that empowered refugees are better able to contribute to their own and their communities' well-being;

(*d*) Invest in building human capital, self-reliance and transferable skills as an essential step towards enabling long-term solutions.

14. Third countries would:

(*a*) Consider making available or expanding, including by encouraging private sector engagement and action as a supplementary measure, resettlement opportunities and complementary pathways for admission of refugees through such means as medical evacuation and humanitarian admission programmes, family reunification and opportunities for skilled migration, labour mobility and education;

(*b*) Commit to sharing best practices, providing refugees with sufficient information to make informed decisions and safeguarding protection standards;

(*c*) Consider broadening the criteria for resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes in mass displacement and protracted situations, coupled with, as appropriate, temporary humanitarian evacuation programmes and other forms of admission.

15. States that have not yet established resettlement programmes are encouraged to do so at the earliest opportunity. Those that have already done so are encouraged to consider increasing the size of their programmes. Such programmes should incorporate a non-discriminatory approach and a gender perspective throughout.

16. States aim to provide resettlement places and other legal pathways on a scale that would enable the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to be met.

The way forward

17. We commit to implementing this comprehensive refugee response framework.

18. We invite the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to engage with States and consult with all relevant stakeholders over the coming two years, with a view to evaluating the detailed practical application of the comprehensive refugee response framework and assessing the scope for refinement and further development. This process should be informed by practical experience with the implementation of the framework in a range of specific situations. The objective would be to ease pressures on the host countries involved, to enhance refugee self-reliance, to expand access to third-country solutions and to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

19. We will work towards the adoption in 2018 of a global compact on refugees, based on the comprehensive refugee response framework and on the outcomes of the process described above. We invite the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to include such a proposed global compact on refugees in his annual report to the General Assembly in 2018, for consideration by the Assembly at its seventy-third session in conjunction with its annual resolution on the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Annex II

Towards a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration

I. Introduction

1. This year, we will launch a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

2. The global compact would set out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions. It would make an important contribution to global governance and enhance coordination on international migration. It would present a framework for comprehensive international cooperation on migrants and human mobility. It would deal with all aspects of international migration, including the humanitarian, developmental, human rights-related and other aspects of migration. It would be guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[17] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International

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[17] Resolution 70/1.

Conference on Financing for Development,[18] and informed by the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development adopted in October 2013.[19]

II. Context

3. We acknowledge the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development.

4. We recognize the positive contribution of migrants to sustainable and inclusive development. We also recognize that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses.

5. We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants, regardless of migration status. We underline the need to ensure respect for the dignity of migrants and the protection of their rights under applicable international law, including the principle of non-discrimination under international law.

6. We emphasize the multidimensional character of international migration, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue in this regard, and the need to protect the human rights of all migrants, regardless of status, particularly at a time when migration flows have increased.

7. We bear in mind that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration should promote holistic approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon. We acknowledge that poverty, underdevelopment, lack of opportunities, poor governance and environmental factors are among the drivers of migration. In turn, pro-poor policies relating to trade, employment and productive investments can stimulate growth and create enormous development potential. We note that international economic imbalances, poverty and environmental degradation, combined with the absence of peace and security and lack of respect for human rights, are all factors affecting international migration.

III. Content

8. The global compact could include, but would not be limited to, the following elements:

(*a*) International migration as a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, as recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(*b*) International migration as a potential opportunity for migrants and their families;

(*c*) The need to address the drivers of migration, including through strengthened efforts in development, poverty eradication and conflict prevention and resolution;

(*d*) The contribution made by migrants to sustainable development and the complex interrelationship between migration and development;

(*e*) The facilitation of safe, orderly, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies; this may include the creation and expansion of safe, regular pathways for migration;

(*f*) The scope for greater international cooperation, with a view to improving migration governance;

(*g*) The impact of migration on human capital in countries of origin;

(*h*) Remittances as an important source of private capital and their contribution to development and promotion of faster, cheaper and safer transfers of remittances through legal channels, in both source and recipient countries, including through a reduction in transaction costs;

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[18] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[19] Resolution 68/4.

(*i*) Effective protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, including women and children, regardless of their migratory status, and the specific needs of migrants in vulnerable situations;

(*j*) International cooperation for border control, with full respect for the human rights of migrants;

(*k*) Combating trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and contemporary forms of slavery;

(*l*) Identifying those who have been trafficked and considering providing assistance, including temporary or permanent residency, and work permits, as appropriate;

(*m*) Reduction of the incidence and impact of irregular migration;

(*n*) Addressing the situations of migrants in countries in crisis;

(*o*) Promotion, as appropriate, of the inclusion of migrants in host societies, access to basic services for migrants and gender-responsive services;

(*p*) Consideration of policies to regularize the status of migrants;

(*q*) Protection of labour rights and a safe environment for migrant workers and those in precarious employment, protection of women migrant workers in all sectors and promotion of labour mobility, including circular migration;

(*r*) The responsibilities and obligations of migrants towards host countries;

(*s*) Return and readmission, and improving cooperation in this regard between countries of origin and destination;

(*t*) Harnessing the contribution of diasporas and strengthening links with countries of origin;

(*u*) Combating racism, xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance towards all migrants;

(*v*) Disaggregated data on international migration;

(*w*) Recognition of foreign qualifications, education and skills and cooperation in access to and portability of earned benefits;

(*x*) Cooperation at the national, regional and international levels on all aspects of migration.

IV. The way forward

9. The global compact would be elaborated through a process of intergovernmental negotiations, for which preparations will begin immediately. The negotiations, which will begin in early 2017, are to culminate in an intergovernmental conference on international migration in 2018 at which the global compact will be presented for adoption.

10. As the Third High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development is to be held in New York no later than 2019,[20] a role should be envisaged for the High-level Dialogue in the process.

11. The President of the General Assembly is invited to make early arrangements for the appointment of two co-facilitators to lead open, transparent and inclusive consultations with States, with a view to the determination of modalities, a timeline, the possible holding of preparatory conferences and other practicalities relating to the intergovernmental negotiations, including the integration of Geneva-based migration expertise.

12. The Secretary-General is requested to provide appropriate support for the negotiations. We envisage that the Secretariat of the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration would jointly service the negotiations, the former providing capacity and support and the latter extending the technical and policy expertise required.

13. We envisage also that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration and Development, Mr. Peter Sutherland, would coordinate the contributions to be made to the negotiation process by the

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[20] See resolution 69/229, para. 32.

Global Forum on Migration and Development and the Global Migration Group. We envisage that the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other entities with significant mandates and expertise related to migration would contribute to the process.

14. Regional consultations in support of the negotiations would be desirable, including through existing consultative processes and mechanisms, where appropriate.

15. Civil society, the private sector, diaspora communities and migrant organizations would be invited to contribute to the process for the preparation of the global compact.

RESOLUTION 71/3

Adopted at the 24th plenary meeting, on 5 October 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.2, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

71/3. Political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/183 of 17 December 2015 and 70/297 of 25 July 2016, in which it decided to hold a high-level meeting on antimicrobial resistance on 21 September 2016,

Adopts the following political declaration approved by the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance on 21 September 2016:

Political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance

We, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 21 September 2016, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/183 of 17 December 2015, in which the Assembly decided to hold a high-level meeting in 2016 on antimicrobial resistance:

1. Reaffirm that the blueprint for tackling antimicrobial resistance is the World Health Organization global action plan on antimicrobial resistance[21] and its five overarching strategic objectives developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health;

2. Also reaffirm that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[22] offers a framework to ensure healthy lives, and recall commitments to fight malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, hepatitis, the Ebola virus disease and other communicable diseases and epidemics, including by addressing growing antimicrobial resistance and neglected diseases affecting developing countries in particular, while reiterating that antimicrobial resistance challenges the sustainability and effectiveness of the public health response to these and other diseases as well as gains in health and development and the attainment of the 2030 Agenda;

3. Acknowledge that the resistance of bacterial, viral, parasitic and fungal microorganisms to antimicrobial medicines that were previously effective for treatment of infections is mainly due to the inappropriate use of antimicrobial medicines in the public health, animal, food, agriculture and aquaculture sectors; lack of access to health services, including to diagnostics and laboratory capacity; and antimicrobial residues in soil, crops and water. Within the broader context of antimicrobial resistance, resistance to antibiotics, which are not like other medicines, including medicines for the treatment of tuberculosis, is the greatest and most urgent global risk, requiring increased attention and coherence at the international, national and regional levels;

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[21] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

[22] Resolution 70/1.

4. Also acknowledge that, owing to antimicrobial resistance, many achievements of the twentieth century are being gravely challenged, in particular, the reduction in illness and death from infectious diseases achieved through social and economic development; access to health services and to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable medicines; hygiene, safe water and sanitation; disease prevention in community and health-care settings, including immunization; nutrition and healthy food; improvements in human and veterinary medicine; and the introduction of new antimicrobial and other medicines;

5. Recognize that the above achievements are now gravely challenged by antimicrobial resistance, including the development of resilient health systems and progress towards the goal of universal health coverage; treatment options for HIV and sexually transmitted infections, tuberculosis and malaria, as well as other infections acquired in community and health-care settings; gains in infection prevention and control in community and health-care settings; advances in agriculture and animal husbandry that help to ensure that the quality of food is preserved; and prevention and treatment options for infectious diseases in veterinary medicine;

6. Also recognize that, owing to antimicrobial resistance, there will be fewer options for the protection of people most vulnerable to serious life-threatening infections, especially women giving birth, newborns, patients with certain chronic diseases or those undergoing chemotherapy or surgery;

7. Note with concern that the fulfilment of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as access for millions of people to health services and to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable antimicrobial medicines, food, clean water and a healthy environment, remain a distant goal, especially in developing countries;

8. Also note with concern that, while the current lack of access to health services and access to antimicrobial medicines in developing countries contributes to more deaths than antimicrobial resistance, without an effective One Health approach and other multisectoral cooperation and actions, antimicrobial resistance is projected to cause millions of deaths worldwide, with massive social, economic and global public health repercussions;

9. Recognize that the keys to tackling antimicrobial resistance are the prevention and control of infections in humans and animals, including immunization, monitoring and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance, sanitation, safe and clean water and healthy environments; investing in strong health systems capable of providing universal health coverage; promoting access to existing and new quality, safe, efficacious and affordable antimicrobial medicines based, where available, on diagnostic tests; sustained research and development for new antimicrobial and alternative medicines, rapid diagnostic tests, vaccines and other important technologies, interventions and therapies; promoting affordable and accessible health care; and resolving the lack of investment in research and development, including through the provision of incentives to innovate and improve public health outcomes, particularly in the field of antibiotics;

10. Also recognize that the overarching principle for addressing antimicrobial resistance is the promotion and protection of human health within the framework of a One Health approach, emphasize that this requires coherent, comprehensive and integrated multisectoral action, as human, animal and environmental health are interconnected, and in this regard:

(*a*) Recognize that effective antimicrobial medicines and their prudent use represent a global public benefit and that, for addressing antimicrobial resistance, it is essential to allow people to have access to efficient and resilient health systems, as well as to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable antimicrobial medicines and other technologies, when they are needed, and to healthy food and environments;

(*b*) Underline that basic and applied innovative research and development, including in areas such as microbiology, epidemiology, traditional and herbal medicine and social and behavioural sciences, as appropriate, are needed in order to better understand antimicrobial resistance and to support research and development on quality, safe, efficacious and affordable antimicrobial medicines, especially new antibiotics and alternative therapies, vaccines and diagnostics;

(*c*) Underline also that all research and development efforts should be needs-driven, evidence-based and guided by the principles of affordability, effectiveness and efficiency and equity, and should be considered as a shared responsibility. In this regard, we acknowledge the importance of delinking the cost of investment in research and development on antimicrobial resistance from the price and volume of sales so as to facilitate equitable and affordable access to new medicines, diagnostic tools, vaccines and other results to be gained through research and development, and welcome innovation and research and development models that deliver effective solutions to the challenges presented by antimicrobial resistance, including those promoting investment in research and development. All relevant stakeholders, including Governments, industry, non-governmental organizations and academics, should continue to explore ways to support innovation models that address the unique set of challenges presented by antimicrobial resistance, including the importance of the appropriate and rational use of antimicrobial medicines, while promoting access to affordable medicines;

(*d*) Underline further that affordability and access to existing and new antimicrobial medicines, vaccines and diagnostics should be a global priority and should take into account the needs of all countries, in line with the World Health Organization global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property[23] and taking into consideration its internationally agreed follow-up processes;

(*e*) Will improve surveillance and monitoring of antimicrobial resistance and the use of antimicrobials to inform policies and work with stakeholders from industry, agriculture and aquaculture, local authorities and hospitals to reduce antimicrobial residues in soil, crops and water;

(*f*) Will enhance capacity-building, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and technical assistance and cooperation for controlling and preventing antimicrobial resistance, as well as international cooperation and funding to support the development and implementation of national action plans, including surveillance and monitoring, the strengthening of health systems and research and regulatory capacity, without jeopardizing, in particular in the case of low- and middle-income countries, health or posing barriers for access to care;

(*g*) Acknowledge that increasing awareness and knowledge on antimicrobial resistance and all of its implications requires the sharing of good practices and findings, collaboration with the media and national and multisectoral actors and the provision of sufficient financing for these activities across sectors;

11. Further recognize that national conditions and priorities should be taken into account at all levels, and that relevant sectors of government should be engaged in the development and implementation of multisectoral national action plans, policies, regulations and regional initiatives, taking into account the national context, legislation and jurisdictional responsibilities;

12. Therefore commit to work at national, regional and global levels:

(*a*) To develop, in line with World Health Assembly resolution 68.7 of 26 May 2015,[24] multisectoral national action plans, programmes and policy initiatives, in line with a One Health approach and the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance, including its five overarching strategic objectives, with a view to implementing national measures for strengthening appropriate antibiotic use in humans and animals. To support the implementation of such plans, national and international collaboration is needed to assess resource needs and to provide sustained technical and financial investment in shared research, laboratories and regulatory capacities, as well as professional education and training, with a view to safeguarding human health, animal health and welfare and the environment;

(*b*) To mobilize adequate, predictable and sustained funding and human and financial resources and investment through national, bilateral and multilateral channels to support the development and implementation of national action plans, research and development on existing and new antimicrobial medicines, diagnostics and vaccines, and other technologies, and strengthening of related infrastructure, including through engagement with multilateral development banks and traditional and voluntary innovative financing and investment mechanisms, based on priorities and local needs set by Governments and on ensuring public return on investment;

(*c*) To take steps to ensure that national action plans include the development and strengthening, as appropriate, of effective surveillance, monitoring and regulatory frameworks on the preservation, use and sale of antimicrobial medicines for humans and animals that are enforced according to national contexts and consistent with international commitments;

(*d*) To initiate, increase and sustain awareness and knowledge-raising activities on antimicrobial resistance in order to engage and encourage behavioural change in different audiences and promote evidence-based prevention, infection control and sanitation programmes; the optimal use of antimicrobial medicines in humans and animals and appropriate prescriptions by health professionals; the active engagement of patients, consumers and the general public, as well as professionals, in human and animal health; and professional education, training and certification among health, veterinary and agricultural practitioners; and consider, as appropriate, innovative approaches to increase consumer awareness, giving attention to local conditions and needs;

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[23] See World Health Organization, document WHA62/2009/REC/1, resolution 62.16.

[24] See World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1

(*e*) To support a multisectoral One Health approach to address antimicrobial resistance, including through public health-driven capacity-building activities and innovative public-private partnerships and incentives and funding initiatives, together with relevant stakeholders in civil society, industry, small- and medium-sized enterprises, research institutes and academia, to promote access to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable new medicines and vaccines, especially antibiotics, as well as alternative therapies and medicines to treatment with antimicrobials, and other combined therapies, vaccines and diagnostic tests;

13. Call upon the World Health Organization, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, to finalize a global development and stewardship framework, as requested by the World Health Assembly in its resolution 68.7, to support the development, control, distribution and appropriate use of new antimicrobial medicines, diagnostic tools, vaccines and other interventions, while preserving existing antimicrobial medicines, and to promote affordable access to existing and new antimicrobial medicines and diagnostic tools, taking into account the needs of all countries and in line with the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance;

14. Call upon the World Health Organization, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Organization for Animal Health, regional and multilateral development banks, including the World Bank, relevant United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as civil society and relevant multisectoral stakeholders, as appropriate, to support the development and implementation of national action plans and antimicrobial resistance activities at the national, regional and global levels;

15. Request the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, an ad hoc inter-agency coordination group, co-chaired by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the World Health Organization, drawing, where necessary, on expertise from relevant stakeholders, to provide practical guidance for approaches needed to ensure sustained effective global action to address antimicrobial resistance, and also request the Secretary-General to submit for consideration by Member States by the seventy-third session of the General Assembly a report on the implementation of the present declaration and on further developments and recommendations emanating from the ad hoc inter-agency coordination group, including on options to improve coordination, taking into account the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance.

RESOLUTION 71/4

Adopted at the 27th plenary meeting, on 13 October 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.4, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

71/4. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling Chapter XV of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the role of the General Assembly under Article 97,

Welcoming the process of selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and its timely conclusion, guided by the principles of transparency and inclusivity as set out in its resolutions 69/321 of 11 September 2015 and 70/305 of 13 September 2016, including the organization of informal dialogues with all candidates for the position of Secretary-General,

Having considered the recommendation contained in Security Council resolution 2311 (2016) of 6 October 2016,

Appoints Mr. António Guterres Secretary-General of the United Nations for a term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2021.

RESOLUTION 71/5

Adopted at the 32nd plenary meeting, on 26 October 2016, by a recorded vote of 191 to none, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.3, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, United States of America

71/5. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the Heads of State or Government of Latin America and the Caribbean at the Summits of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States regarding the need to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed against Cuba,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as "the Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003, 59/11 of 28 October 2004, 60/12 of 8 November 2005, 61/11 of 8 November 2006, 62/3 of 30 October 2007, 63/7 of 29 October 2008, 64/6 of 28 October 2009, 65/6 of 26 October 2010, 66/6 of 25 October 2011, 67/4 of 13 November 2012, 68/8 of 29 October 2013, 69/5 of 28 October 2014 and 70/5 of 27 October 2015,

Welcoming the progress in the relations between the Governments of Cuba and the United States of America and, in that context, the visit of the President of the United States, Mr. Barack Obama, to Cuba in March 2016, *Recognizing* the reiterated will of the President of the United States to work for the elimination of the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba,

Taking note of the steps taken by the United States Administration towards modifying some aspects of the implementation of the embargo, which, although positive, are still limited in scope,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12, 61/11, 62/3, 63/7, 64/6, 65/6, 66/6, 67/4, 68/8, 69/5 and 70/5, the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba is still in place, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 70/5;[25]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the steps necessary to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 71/8

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 16 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.10 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mali, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States of America

71/8. Education for democracy

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles and purposes contained therein, and recognizing that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to education, which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[26] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[27] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[28] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[29] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[30] and in other relevant instruments,

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[25] A/71/91.

[26] Resolution 217 A (III).

[27] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[28] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[29] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[30] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

Recalling its resolutions 67/18 of 28 November 2012 and 69/268 of 5 March 2015 and the results of the plan of action for the second phase (2010–2014) of the World Programme for Human Rights Education,[31] and taking note with appreciation of the plan of action for the third phase (2015–2019) of the World Programme,[32]

Taking note of section VII, entitled "Supporting the global citizenship agenda through education for democracy", of resolution 1 adopted on 20 November 2013 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-seventh session,[33]

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[34] are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging the importance of taking measures to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, as well as the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Stressing the complementarity and mutual reinforcement of human rights education, training and learning and education for democracy,

Reaffirming that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,[35]

Taking note of the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015, which affirmed the understanding of education as a main driver of development that is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment and sustainable development, as well as key to achieving full employment and poverty eradication,

Taking note also of the *Global Education Monitoring Report 2016*, which monitors progress towards the education targets within the new Sustainable Development Goals framework, and affirming that education can encourage constructive and inclusive political participation,

Recognizing that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region,

Mindful of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights,[36] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[37] the World Plan of Action on Education for Human Rights and Democracy adopted by the International Congress on Education for Human Rights and Democracy,[38] the World Programme for Human Rights Education proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 59/113 A of 10 December 2004 and the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,[39]

Recalling the establishment of the United Nations Democracy Fund and the efforts of the Fund to advance the United Nations democracy agenda, as well as the operational activities in support of democratization processes carried out by the United Nations system, including by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme,

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[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap.II, resolution 15/11.

[32] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A, resolution 27/12.

[33] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-seventh session, Paris, 5–20 November 2013*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. IV.

[34] Resolution 70/1.

[35] Resolution 60/1, para. 135.

[36] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[37] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[38] A/CONF.157/PC/42/Add.6.

[39] Resolution 66/137, annex.

Acknowledging the important role of international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders in support of democracy and education for democracy,

Recognizing that education contributes to the strengthening of democracy, good governance and the rule of law at all levels, the reduction of economic inequality, the realization of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the achievement of all internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the development of human potential, the eradication of poverty and the fostering of greater understanding among peoples,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy";[40]

2. *Reaffirms* the fundamental link between democratic governance, peace, development and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

3. *Recalls* the Global Education First initiative launched by the Secretary-General on 26 September 2012, in particular its third priority area on fostering global citizenship;

4. *Also recalls* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[34] in which Member States committed themselves to the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen their efforts to promote the values of peace, human rights, democracy, respect for religious and cultural diversity and justice through education;

6. *Strongly encourages* Member States and national, regional and local education authorities, as appropriate, to integrate education for democracy, along with civic education, human rights education and education for sustainable development into their education standards and to develop and strengthen programmes, curricula and curricular and extracurricular educational activities aimed at the promotion and consolidation of democratic values and democratic governance and human rights, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices in the field, in order to facilitate the empowerment of citizens and their participation in political life and policymaking at all levels;

7. *Invites* United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Democracy Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to provide appropriate expertise and resources for the development of relevant educational programmes and materials for democracy;

8. *Encourages* international, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, within their respective mandates, to share their best practices and experiences in the field of education for democracy, including but not limited to civic education, with each other and with the United Nations system, as appropriate;

9. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the issue of education for democracy at its seventy-third session, under the agenda item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields";

10. *Invites* Governments, the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts to promote education for democracy, requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations

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[40] A/71/177.

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, within existing reporting obligations, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, and invites the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to education, within her existing mandate, to contribute to the report of the Secretary-General.

RESOLUTION 71/9

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 17 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.13 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/9. The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/77 of 9 December 2015 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 2189 (2014) of 12 December 2014, 2210 (2015) of 16 March 2015 and 2274 (2016) of 15 March 2016,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Welcoming the efforts by Afghanistan in the framework of the Transformation Decade (2015–2024) to consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, with the goal of becoming fully self-reliant,

Reaffirming the long-term partnership between the Government of Afghanistan and the international community based on their renewed mutual commitments, as laid down in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, as agreed upon at the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan on 5 October 2016, and recalling the long-term commitment of the international community to Afghanistan, reaffirmed at the Conference, with the aim of strengthening national ownership and leadership, taking into account the evolving nature of the presence of the international community,

Reaffirming also the commitment of the international community to continue to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, in the Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2014 and in the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2016, and honouring the memory of the men and women of the Afghan and international security forces who have given their lives in the course of duty,

Reiterating the urgent need to tackle the challenges facing Afghanistan, in particular the region-based violent extremist activities of the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, the development of the institutions of the Government of Afghanistan, including at the subnational level, the strengthening of the rule of law and democratic processes, the fight against corruption, the continuation of justice sector reform, the promotion of the peace process, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the measures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011) of 17 June 2011, 2082 (2012) and 2083 (2012) of 17 December 2012, 2160 (2014) and 2161 (2014) of 17 June 2014, 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015 and 2255 (2015) of 21 December 2015 and other relevant resolutions, an Afghan-led transitional justice process, the safe and voluntary return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons in an orderly and dignified manner, the promotion and protection of human rights, interfaith and intra-faith tolerance and the advancement of economic and social development, *Expressing serious concern* regarding the dangerous presence and activities of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) affiliates in Afghanistan and their brutal acts, including the killing of Afghan nationals,

Expressing its deep concern about the continuous high level of violence in Afghanistan, especially the number of civilian casualties, condemning in the strongest terms all terrorist activity and all violent attacks, recalling that the Taliban, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups are responsible for the significant majority of the civilian casualties in Afghanistan, and calling for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, and for all appropriate measures to be taken to protect civilians, humanitarian workers and aid and humanitarian facilities,

Welcoming the achievements of the National Unity Government in political, economic, governance and social reforms and in the management of transition, underlining the need to preserve past achievements, and urging further improvement in this regard, in particular to address poverty and the delivery of services, stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities, increase domestic revenue and promote human rights, especially women's rights and the rights of persons belonging to minorities,

Emphasizing the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expressing its appreciation and strong support for all of the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan in this regard, expressing its appreciation also for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in accordance with Security Council resolution 2274 (2016), and stressing the important role of the Assistance Mission in seeking to further improve the coherence and coordination of international civilian efforts, guided by the principle of reinforcing Afghan ownership and leadership,

Welcoming the reports of the Secretary-General[41] and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Pledges its continued support* to the Government and people of Afghanistan as they rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

2. *Encourages* all partners to support constructively the Government of Afghanistan's reform agenda, including as envisaged in the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, so as to secure a prosperous and democratic Afghanistan, focusing on strengthening the constitutional checks and balances that guarantee citizens' rights and obligations and implementing structural reform to enable an accountable and effective Government to deliver concrete progress to its people;

3. *Supports* the continuing and growing ownership of reconstruction and development efforts by the Government of Afghanistan, emphasizes the crucial need to achieve ownership and accountability in all fields of governance and to improve institutional capabilities, including at the subnational level, in order to use aid more effectively, and underscores in this regard the importance of the commitments of the international community and of the new set of indicators for the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, as reiterated in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016;

Security

4. *Recognizes* the commitment of the international community to support the training, equipping, financing and development of the capacity of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces beyond the end of the transition period and throughout the Transformation Decade, including as agreed in the Chicago Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2012, in the Wales Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2014 and in the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan in 2016, including through the Resolute Support Mission, as welcomed by the Security Council in its resolution 2189 (2014);

5. *Welcomes* the pledges and commitments of the Warsaw Summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, held on 8 and 9 July 2016, to continue national contributions to the financial sustainment of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including until the end of 2020, and to sustain the Resolute Support

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[41] A/69/540-S/2014/656, A/69/801-S/2015/151, A/70/359-S/2015/684 and A/71/616-S/2016/768.

Mission beyond 2016, to continue to deliver training, advice and assistance to the Afghan security institutions, including the police, the air force and special operations forces;

6. *Reiterates once again its serious concern* about the security situation in Afghanistan, stresses the need to continue to address the threat to the security and stability of Afghanistan caused by the region-based violent extremist and other illegal armed groups and criminals, including those involved in the narcotics trade, expresses concern over the serious threat posed by the presence of foreign terrorist fighters, reiterates in this regard its call for the full and serious implementation of measures and the application of procedures introduced in relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 1989 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2083 (2012), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2253 (2015) and 2255 (2015), and calls upon all States to strengthen their international and regional cooperation to enhance information-sharing, border control, law enforcement and criminal justice to better counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and returning foreign terrorist fighters in Afghanistan and the region;

7. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the presence of terrorist organizations, in particular Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh), and its brutal acts, including killings of Afghan nationals, and in this regard affirms its support for the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to combat these threats in the country;

8. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all unlawful acts of violence, intimidation and attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks, assassinations, including of public figures, abductions, indiscriminate attacks against civilians, killings, attacks against individuals, media groups and organs of society engaged in the promotion and protection of universally recognized human rights, attacks against humanitarian workers and the targeting of Afghan and international forces, which have a deleterious effect on stabilization and development efforts in Afghanistan, and also condemns the use, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and illegal armed groups, of civilians as human shields, Taliban attacks and acts of international terrorists;

9. *Stresses* the need for the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to continue to work closely together and to improve coordination in countering such acts, which are threatening peace and stability in Afghanistan and the democratic process, the achievements and the continued implementation of the Afghanistan development gains and process, as well as humanitarian aid measures, recognizes the achievements of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces in this regard, and calls upon all Member States, in particular neighbouring countries, to deny those groups any form of sanctuary, freedom of operations, movement, recruitment and financial, material or political support that endangers the State system and regional peace and security;

10. *Welcomes* the assumption of full security responsibility by the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, commends the resiliency and courage displayed in this regard, calls upon the international community to provide the support necessary to increase security, including public order, law enforcement, the security of Afghanistan's borders and the preservation of the constitutional rights of Afghan citizens, as well as to provide continued support by training, equipping and contributing to the financing of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces to take on the task of securing their country and fighting against international terrorism, underscores the importance of the Chicago, Wales and Warsaw Summit Declarations on Afghanistan and other relevant agreements with regional and international partners, and takes note in this regard of the Warsaw Summit Declaration on Afghanistan;

11. *Also welcomes*, in this regard, the presence of the Resolute Support Mission, which was preceded by the International Security Assistance Force, expresses its appreciation to Member States for having contributed personnel, equipment and other resources to the Mission and for the support provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces by all international partners, in particular by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through its previous combat and current non-combat missions in Afghanistan, as well as other bilateral training programmes, and encourages further coordination, where appropriate;

12. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, with a view to ensuring stability and providing conditions for the effective rule of law and respect for human rights, in particular women and children's rights, to continue its security sector reform by making the security provision, management and oversight of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces more effective and accountable, recognizes the importance of further implementation of the Afghan National Police Strategy and the 10-year vision presented by the Ministry of the Interior, and expresses its appreciation for the support Member States have provided to the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces;

13. *Recalls* that regional security cooperation plays a key role in maintaining stability in Afghanistan and the region, welcomes the progress achieved by Afghanistan and regional partners in this regard, and calls for further efforts by Afghanistan and regional partners and organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to strengthen their partnership and cooperation, including to enhance the capabilities of the Afghan security forces and to enhance security in the region;

14. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persistent problem of anti-personnel landmines and explosive remnants of war, welcomes the achievements to date in the implementation of the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan aimed at declaring Afghanistan mine-free by 2023, underscores the importance of sustained international assistance, encourages the Government of Afghanistan, with the support of the United Nations and all relevant actors, to continue its efforts to meet its responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[42] expresses concern at the use of improvised explosive devices by the Taliban against civilians and the Afghan security forces, and notes the need to enhance coordination and information-sharing between both Member States and the private sector to prevent the flow of improvised explosive device components to the Taliban;

Peace and reconciliation

15. *Welcomes* the peace agreement signed by the Government of Afghanistan and the High Peace Council with Hizb-i Islami on 22 September 2016 as an important development in the overall peace effort of the Government, and calls for its effective implementation;

16. *Recognizes* that an Afghan-led inclusive peace process backed by regional actors, in particular Pakistan, supported by the international community, is essential for achieving long-term peace and stability in Afghanistan, reiterates its firm commitment to support the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts in this regard with all those who renounce violence, sever ties with international terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaida, respect the Constitution, including its human rights provisions, notably the rights of women and girls, as well as the rights of persons belonging to minorities, and are willing to join in building a peaceful Afghanistan, with full respect for the implementation of the measures and application of the procedures introduced by the Security Council in its resolutions 1267 (1999), 1988 (2011), 2082 (2012), 2160 (2014) and 2255 (2015), as well as other relevant resolutions of the Council, calls upon all relevant States, especially neighbouring countries, and international organizations to remain engaged in the Afghan-led peace process, and recognizes the impact terrorist attacks have on the Afghan people and risk having on future prospects for a peace settlement;

17. *Encourages* Afghanistan and Pakistan to enhance their relationship, which could lead to cooperation to effectively combat terrorism and move forward the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process;

18. *Recalls* that women play a vital role in the peace process, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and in related resolutions, including resolution 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015, welcomes steps taken by the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its national action plan on women, peace and security, recognizes in this regard the increasing role of women in the peace process, as manifested in their representation in the High Peace Council and its provincial committees and secretariats, as well as their contribution to the development of the Afghanistan peace and reconciliation strategy, as reflected in the recent report of the Secretary-General,[43] supports further efforts in this regard, and encourages the Government of Afghanistan to further support the active participation of women in the peace process;

19. *Recognizes* that there is no purely military solution to ensure the stability of Afghanistan, welcomes the continuation of the efforts of all regional and international partners of Afghanistan to support peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan, including through the work of the Quadrilateral Coordination Group on the Afghan Peace and Reconciliation Process of Afghanistan, China, Pakistan and the United States of America, towards the holding of early direct peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and authorized representatives of Taliban groups, and calls upon Group members and all other regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue their efforts;

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[42] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

[43] A/71/616-S/2016/768.

Democracy

20. *Emphasizes* the importance of all parties in Afghanistan working together to achieve a unified, peaceful, democratic and prosperous future for all the people of Afghanistan;

21. *Recalls* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan, reiterated at the Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan on 8 July 2012, to strengthen and improve Afghanistan's electoral process, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the electoral law on 28 September 2016 and the intention of the Government to implement in 2017 the essential electoral reforms and prepare for elections to further restore trust and confidence in the electoral process and its institutions;

22. *Welcomes* the increasingly wide and comprehensive dialogue on the political transition towards strengthening the unity of the Afghan people, and underscores its importance for consolidating democracy and Afghan political stability;

23. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to continue to effectively reform the public administration sector in order to implement the rule of law and to ensure good governance and accountability, and welcomes the efforts of the Government and its commitments made in this regard;

Rule of law, human rights and good governance

24. *Emphasizes* that the rule of law, human rights and good governance form the foundation for the achievement of a stable and prosperous Afghanistan;

25. *Recalls* the constitutional guarantee of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, without discrimination of any kind, stresses the need to fully implement the human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution, in accordance with obligations under applicable international law, in particular those regarding the full enjoyment by women and children of their human rights, and acknowledges efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in this regard;

26. *Reiterates its concern* at the destructive consequences of violent and terrorist activities, including against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals, for the enjoyment of human rights and for the capacity of the Government to ensure human rights and fundamental freedoms for all Afghans, stresses the need to further promote tolerance and religious freedom and to ensure respect for the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of thought, conscience or belief as enshrined in the Afghan Constitution and the international covenants that Afghanistan adheres to, emphasizes the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past violations, stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and of bringing the perpetrators to justice in accordance with national and international law, calls for full implementation of the mass media law, while noting with concern and condemning the continuing intimidation and violence targeting Afghan journalists, such as cases of abduction and even the killing of journalists by terrorist and extremist and criminal groups, urges that harassment and attacks on journalists be investigated by Afghan authorities and that those responsible be brought to justice, and welcomes in this regard the issuance of the presidential decree of 31 January 2016 outlining specific measures for ensuring the safety, security and protection of journalists;

27. *Reiterates* its unwavering commitment and that of the Government of Afghanistan to achieving the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of Afghan life, and commends the achievements and efforts of the Government aimed at countering discrimination and protecting and promoting the equal rights of women and men as guaranteed, inter alia, by its ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[44] and by the Afghan Constitution, the National Action Plan for the Women of Afghanistan and the law on the elimination of violence against women;

28. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan, and recalls the need for the full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[45] its

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[44] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[45] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[46] and its Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict[47] by all States parties, as well as of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, and all other subsequent resolutions on children and armed conflict, and Council resolutions 1998 (2011) and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016 on attacks against schools and/or hospitals, in particular by terrorist and extremist and criminal groups, commends the Government of Afghanistan for introducing legislation banning the recruitment and use of children, and welcomes the progress made on the implementation of the action plan for the prevention of underage recruitment, signed in January 2011, and the annex thereto on children associated with the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, and of the road map towards compliance;

29. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the anti-corruption commitment made by the Government of Afghanistan, welcomes in this respect the establishment of the High Council on Governance, Justice and Anti-Corruption, the Anti-Corruption Criminal Justice Centre and the National Procurement Commission, as measures taken by the Government to implement its comprehensive reform agenda, strengthen governance and achieve a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government, welcomes in this regard the notable progress made thus far, as presented and endorsed at the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan, and encourages continued decisive action by the Government to establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels of government;

30. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of Afghanistan to meet governance objectives in this regard;

Counter-narcotics

31. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan in fighting drug production in Afghanistan, takes note of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Afghanistan Opium Survey 2016" released in October 2016, which, inter alia, notes an increase in the production and cultivation of drugs and stresses the need to further strengthen joint, coordinated and resolute efforts by the Government, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, international and regional actors, within their designated responsibilities, and encourages international and regional cooperation with Afghanistan in its sustained efforts to address drug production and trafficking;

32. *Stresses* the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, human rights and economic and social development, particularly in rural areas, including the development of improved alternative livelihood programmes;

33. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between the drug trade and terrorist activities by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, Al-Qaida and other violent and extremist groups and criminal groups, which pose a serious threat to security, the rule of law and development in Afghanistan and the region, and stresses the importance of the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions in this regard, including resolutions 2253 (2015) and 2255 (2015);

34. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Government of Afghanistan in implementing its National Drug Control Strategy and National Drug Action Plan aimed at eliminating the cultivation, production, trafficking in and consumption of illicit drugs, including through increased support for Afghan law enforcement and criminal justice agencies, agricultural and rural development for the creation of improved alternative livelihoods for farmers, demand reduction, the elimination of illicit crops, increased public awareness and capacity-building for drug control institutions and care and treatment centres for drug addicts, reiterates its call upon the international community to channel counter-narcotics funding through the Government, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant mechanisms to the extent possible, notes that the problem of production, cultivation, trafficking in and consumption of narcotic drugs should be addressed on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility of the Government of Afghanistan and the international

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[46] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[47] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

community, and welcomes and supports the joint regional activities carried out by Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan within the framework of the triangular initiative to counter narcotics;

Social and economic development

35. *Welcomes* the new Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework setting out the strategic policy priorities of Afghanistan towards achieving self-reliance and the presentation of five new national priority programmes, on a citizens' charter, women's economic empowerment, urban development, comprehensive agriculture and national infrastructure, to improve the conditions for advancing sustainable development and stability;

36. *Renews its commitment* to long-term support for the economic development of Afghanistan on the basis of mutual accountability as stated in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework, urgently appeals to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations, including the international and regional financial institutions, to continue to provide, in close coordination with the Government of Afghanistan and in accordance with the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework and the national priority programmes contained therein, all possible and necessary humanitarian, recovery, reconstruction, development, financial, educational, technical and material assistance for Afghanistan, and underlines the crucial importance of continued and sequenced implementation of the reform agenda, national priority programmes and the development and governance goals as agreed in the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework;

37. *Recognizes* the substantial development and notable progress achieved by Afghanistan with the steadfast support of the international community in the past years, expresses its support for the reaffirmation and consolidation of the partnership between Afghanistan and the international community during the London Conference on Afghanistan, held in 2014, at the outset of the Transformation Decade (2015–2024), in which Afghanistan will consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in the service of its people, urges the Government of Afghanistan to involve all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction programmes, and welcomes the presentation by the Government of Afghanistan of the national priority programme on women's economic empowerment;

38. *Welcomes* the continued progress in implementing the Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework and the monitoring mechanism included therein, in which the Government of Afghanistan reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen governance, grounded in human rights, the rule of law and adherence to the Afghan Constitution, and held it as integral to sustained growth and economic development, and in which the international community committed to enhance the efficiency of development aid by aligning assistance with the Afghan national priority programmes and by channelling assistance through the national budget of the Government, as outlined in the Tokyo Declaration: Partnership for Self-Reliance in Afghanistan – From Transition to Transformation,[48] and reaffirmed in the communiqué of the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan and the new Self-reliance through Mutual Accountability Framework indicators;

39. *Commends* the Government of Afghanistan for aligning its new development strategy with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[49] acknowledges significant progress made by the Government towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2020, and urges the international community to assist the Government in completing its unfinished Millennium Development Goals and implementing its Sustainable Development Goals;

40. *Also commends* the Government of Afghanistan for improving budgetary transparency and its efforts to reach fiscal sustainability, notes the challenges ahead, and urges that continued efforts be made to meet revenue targets;

41. *Recognizes* the necessity for further improvement in the living conditions of the Afghan people, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and support the development of the capacity of the Government of Afghanistan to deliver basic social services at the national, provincial and local levels, in particular education and public health services;

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[48] A/66/867-S/2012/532, annex I.

[49] Resolution 70/1.

42. *Reiterates* the necessity of providing Afghan children, especially Afghan girls, with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, and welcomes the progress achieved in the sector of public education;

Refugees

43. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, in particular Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden they have so far shouldered in this regard, asks for continued generous support by the international community, and asks relevant international organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, to continue to work closely with Afghanistan and the countries hosting Afghan refugees with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return, rehabilitation and reintegration;

44. *Welcomes* the outcome of the high-level segment on the Afghan refugee problem of the sixty-sixth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva on 6 and 7 October 2015,[50] also welcomes the outcome of the International Conference on the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries, held in Geneva on 2 and 3 May 2012, and looks forward to the further implementation of the joint communiqué of the Conference, aimed at increased sustainability of returns and continued support for host countries, through the sustained support and the directed efforts of the international community;

45. *Expresses its concern* over the recent increase in the number of internally displaced persons and refugees from Afghanistan, stresses that stability and development in Afghanistan can be achieved if its citizens can see a future for themselves within their country, reiterates to host countries and the international community the obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, the principle of voluntary return and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to the refugees, and calls upon countries to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement, as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

46. *Takes note* of the cooperation framework recently signed between the Government of Afghanistan and the European Union, entitled "Joint way forward on migration issues", and in this context underscores the importance of close and effective cooperation to address the problem of irregular migration in a comprehensive manner, with due focus on and consideration of addressing the root causes of migration, including through job creation and the establishment of returnees' livelihoods in Afghanistan, and in accordance with international commitments and obligations, including the human rights and legal rights of all migrants and the rights of persons in need of international protection in line with the provisions of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[51] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[52] as applicable;

47. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to making the repatriation and reintegration of Afghan refugees one of its highest national priorities, including their voluntary, safe and dignified return and their sustainable reintegration into national development planning and prioritization processes, and encourages and supports all efforts of the Government towards the implementation of this commitment;

48. *Reaffirms its firm support* for the implementation of the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees to Support Voluntary Repatriation, Sustainable Reintegration and Assistance to Host Countries endorsed by the international community in 2012, and acknowledges the Enhanced Voluntary Return and Reintegration Package for Afghan Refugees as an innovative way to enhance sustainable return and reintegration;

49. *Welcomes* the continued return of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, in a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable manner, while noting with concern the security challenges of Afghanistan;

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[50] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/70/12/Add.1), annex II.

[51] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[52] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

Regional cooperation

50. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive regional cooperation as an effective means to promote peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan, recognizing in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations, recalling the importance of the Kabul Declaration on Good-neighbourly Relations of 22 December 2002[53] and welcoming in this regard the continued commitment of the international community to support the stability and development of Afghanistan, encourages further improved relations and enhanced engagement between Afghanistan and its neighbours, calls for further efforts in this regard, including in the framework of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan and by regional organizations and long-term strategic partnerships and other agreements aimed at achieving a peaceful, stable and prosperous Afghanistan, welcomes international and regional initiatives in this regard, such as those of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan process, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and also welcomes the formation of the Quadrilateral Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism in Counter-Terrorism by Afghanistan-China-Pakistan-Tajikistan Armed Forces to coordinate and support their efforts in counter-terrorism areas;

51. *Welcomes* the important initiatives for regional connectivity, notably in the frameworks of the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process confidence-building measures to facilitate increased trade throughout the region, and looks forward to the forthcoming Heart of Asia ministerial meeting, to be held in Amritsar, India, on 4 December 2016;

52. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of strengthening local and regional networks of transportation that will facilitate connectivity for economic development, stability and self-sustainability, particularly the completion and maintenance of local railroad and land routes, the development of regional projects to foster further connectivity and the enhancement of international civil aviation capabilities;

53. *Welcomes and urges* further efforts to strengthen the process of regional economic cooperation, including measures to facilitate regional connectivity, trade and transit, including through regional development initiatives such as the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (the Belt and Road) Initiative, and regional development projects, such as the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project, the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA-1000), the Chabahar agreement between Afghanistan, India and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Lapis Lazuli Transit, Trade and Transport Route agreement and the Turkmenistan-Aqina railway segment, and bilateral transit trade agreements, expanded consular visa cooperation and facilitation of business travel, to expand trade, increase foreign investments and develop infrastructure, including infrastructural connectivity, energy supply, transport and integrated border management, with a view to promoting sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in Afghanistan and the region, noting the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia, recalls that such regional economic cooperation plays an important role in achieving stability and development in Afghanistan, and in this regard urges all relevant stakeholders to ensure a secure environment for these development initiatives and trade agreements to be fully implemented;

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board

54. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 2274 (2016), stresses the continued importance of the central and impartial coordinating role of the United Nations in promoting a more coherent international engagement, and acknowledges the central role played by the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board in this regard;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

56. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

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[53] S/2002/1416, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/10

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.5, sponsored by Kyrgyzstan

71/10. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

The General Assembly,

Referring to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Referring also to its resolution 48/237 of 24 March 1994, by which it granted the Commonwealth of Independent States observer status in the General Assembly,

Welcoming the efforts of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character is one of the purposes of the United Nations,

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, as well as statements by the President of the Council, including the statement of 13 January 2010,[54] in which the Council emphasized the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter,

Welcoming the commitment of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify and deepen its cooperation with the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States will advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Notes* the activities of the Commonwealth of Independent States to strengthen regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development; exchange of statistical data and economic information; culture; education; health care; sports; tourism; science and innovation; environmental protection and response to natural and man-made disasters; combating organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, terrorist acts, manifestations of extremism and illegal migration; and other related areas;

2. *Also notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and invites the Secretary-General to hold for that purpose regular consultations with the Chair of the Executive Committee and Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth, making use of appropriate inter-agency forums and formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to develop their cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States".

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[54] S/PRST/2010/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010* (S/INF/65).

RESOLUTION 71/11

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 84 to none, with 5 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.6 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

Against: None

Abstaining: Central African Republic, Congo, Germany, Indonesia, Syrian Arab Republic

71/11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relevant to cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Recalling also article 3 of the Charter of the League of Arab States,[55] which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby the League will collaborate with international organizations to guarantee international peace and security, organize political, security, social, economic, cultural, technical, environmental and administrative relations, and enhance and strengthen the League's capacity in those areas,

Taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[56] and in particular section VII concerning cooperation with regional organizations, and the "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[57]

Recognizing the need for further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in the pursuit of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[58]

Welcoming the signing on 24 September 2016 of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations, and recognizing the need to continue to take the measures necessary to strengthen the existing cooperation between the two organizations,

Commending the resolutions and recommendations of the twelfth sectoral meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their specialized organizations, held in Cairo in October 2015, on the theme "The repercussions of underestimating human rights: towards a comprehensive cooperation approach", as well as the thirteenth general cooperation meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their systems, held in Geneva in May 2016, at which challenges and threats undermining international peace and stability, as well as development, were addressed,

1. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to consider the possibility of forming a high-level working group to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations until a liaison office to the

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[55] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[56] A/47/277-S/24111.

[57] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[58] A/71/160-S/2016/621 and Add.1.

League of Arab States is opened in Cairo, with the aim of improving and achieving further coordination between the two organizations in the fields addressed in the protocol;

2. *Also requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to continue their periodic consultations, at all levels, in order to exchange information, and review and strengthen coordination and follow-up mechanisms, particularly in the political and security fields;

3. *Calls upon* United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and institutions to continue their interaction with their counterparts from Arab organizations and institutions and to improve mechanisms for consultation with them, in order to implement mutually agreed projects and programmes and to make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and their technical expertise in implementing projects undertaken in the Arab region;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of holding the thirteenth sectoral meeting between the two organizations and their specialized agencies, in 2017, concerning cooperation on the preservation and management of water resources in the Arab region, and the fourteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations and their systems during 2018, for which the dates and venue will be agreed upon in due course;

5. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to inform the Secretary-General, no later than January 2018, of the progress made in its cooperation with the League of Arab States, in particular, the implementation of the multilateral proposals adopted at the thirteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

RESOLUTION 71/12

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.7, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan

71/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[59]

Referring to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Referring also to its resolution 59/50 of 2 December 2004, in which it granted the Collective Security Treaty Organization observer status in the General Assembly,

Referring further to its resolutions 64/256 of 2 March 2010, 65/122 of 13 December 2010, 67/6 of 19 November 2012 and 69/12 of 11 November 2014 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and to its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,[60]

Referring to all previous relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, and the relevant statements by its President, including those of 13 January 2010[61] and

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[59] A/71/160-S/2016/621 and Add.1.

[60] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[61] S/PRST/2010/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010* (S/INF/65).

6 August 2013,[62] which underline the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and statutes of regional and subregional organizations,

Noting with satisfaction that, during its existence, the Collective Security Treaty Organization has transformed into a multifunctional structure with the potential to provide an adequate response to a wide range of threats and challenges within the area of its responsibility,

Welcoming the efforts of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming also the practical steps taken by the Collective Security Treaty Organization to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[63] in particular through the joint plan of action for the implementation of the Strategy in Central Asia, adopted in Ashgabat on 30 November 2011,

Acknowledging the great practical importance of the efforts of the regional counter-narcotics operation of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, "Kanal", to combat the smuggling of Afghan opiates and the cannabis group of drugs, cocaine and synthetic substances into the territory of States of the Eurasian region and to counter the activities of organized drug groups and their leaders,

Welcoming the practical contribution of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[64] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, for the period 2009–2019,

Welcoming also the adoption and practical implementation of the counter-narcotics strategy of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization for 2015–2020,

Welcoming further the progress in enhancing practical cooperation between the two secretariats based, inter alia, on the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat, aimed at promoting more extensive and intensive cooperation in the maintenance of peace, including by encouraging the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to make contributions to the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations,

Noting the progress in developing the potential of the collective rapid reaction forces and the formation of peacekeeping forces of the Collective Security Treaty Organization,

Noting also the firm intention of both organizations to further strengthen existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the priority areas of cooperation,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[59] and acknowledges in particular the development of mutually beneficial interaction between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the significant practical contribution and efforts of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to strengthen its peacekeeping capacities and the system of regional security and stability, to counter terrorism and transnational organized crime, to combat illicit trafficking in drugs and weapons, and illegal migration and human trafficking, and to recover from natural and man-made disasters, thereby contributing to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to enhance coordination and cooperation in the areas of mutual interest and to develop concrete modalities for such cooperation, and encourages them to continue their collaboration, including the exchange of information;

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[62] S/PRST/2013/12; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

[63] Resolution 60/288.

[64] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, through bilateral contacts and various formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

5. *Invites* the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to continue their interaction in the interest of the consistent and comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[63]

6. *Invites* increased cooperation and coordination among the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the development of their direct contacts in areas of mutual interest;

7. *Encourages* both organizations to continue to examine possible ways to further strengthen their interaction in the area of peacekeeping;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization".

RESOLUTION 71/13

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.9 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Georgia, Hungary, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

71/13. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 66/111 of 9 December 2011, by which it granted observer status to the Central European Initiative,

Recalling also its resolutions 67/7 of 19 November 2012 and 69/8 of 11 November 2014, in which it invited the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Initiative in order to continue joint activities for the achievement of common objectives,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

Appreciating the active involvement of the Initiative in establishing cooperation with the United Nations system and relevant international and regional organizations, aimed at the furthering of political and socioeconomic development by covering all its relevant dimensions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/8,[65]

1. *Notes* the continuing efficiency of the Central European Initiative as a promoter of political dialogue, thus supporting the stability, security and economic growth of its member States in a project-oriented way;

2. *Values*, in particular, the great adaptability of the Initiative to political changes and its immediate response to urgent issues through providing assistance to affected countries in the region and connecting relevant stakeholders;

3. *Welcomes*, in this context, the extraordinary call for proposals on migration and security issues launched by the Initiative in 2015, as well as its network events regarding migration crisis management;

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[65] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

4. *Also welcomes*, in this context, the cooperation established through memorandums of understanding with specialized organizations, such as the Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative, based in Skopje, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development, based in Vienna, and the International Organization for Migration, based in Geneva;

5. *Notes* the vigorous efforts of the Central European Initiative to support, elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects in strategic areas, often in cooperation with other important regional and international players, in order to increase the financial support for projects in the region;

6. *Appreciates*, in this context, the efforts undertaken by the Initiative in intensifying its cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe through joining forces for the implementation of three projects addressing relevant issues on gender equality, on the fight against corruption and on reconciliation in the region;

7. *Acknowledges*, also in this context, the fruitful cooperation between the Initiative and the European Union, as one of the main co-funders of the Initiative's projects, and supports the continuous efforts of the Initiative to take concrete steps to establish additional mutually beneficial partnerships with the European Union;

8. *Also acknowledges* the commitment of the Initiative to supporting its non-European Union member States in their integration and modernization processes;

9. *Welcomes*, in this context, the decision of Belarus to take over the Initiative's annual presidency in 2017;

10. *Also welcomes* the continuing financial support by the Central European Initiative Trust Fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, financed entirely by Italy, funding mainly technical cooperation projects related to larger operations of the Bank in non-European Union States members of the Initiative, and covering relevant areas including agriculture, transport, energy, assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises, municipal infrastructure and services, banking, insurance, institution-building and capacity-building;

11. *Appreciates* the significant contribution of the Initiative in providing grants for small-scale multilateral projects in priority areas through the Central European Initiative Cooperation Fund, to which all member States contribute, as well as the financial support by the Know-how Exchange Programme, financed by Austria and Italy, providing grants for projects promoting capacity-building and best practices in non-European Union member States;

12. *Notes* the significant contribution of the Initiative in the areas of culture and the media by supporting various events, prizes and other initiatives promoting, in particular, intercultural dialogue and press freedom;

13. *Also notes* the engagement of the Initiative in support of mobility for young officials, students and researchers through specific instruments and programmes;

14. *Acknowledges* the substantial role of the Parliamentary and Business Dimensions of the Initiative in fostering regional cooperation;

15. *Appreciates* the commitment of the Initiative to intensifying cooperation with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular mutual participation in events and meetings of common interest, and to developing practical and results-oriented joint projects;

16. *Values* the commitment of the Initiative, which presented its support on the occasion of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held in 2015, to contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[66] in particular through focusing on sustainable development and interconnectivity on a regional level;

17. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify the exchange with the Initiative in order to continue the fruitful cooperation and to facilitate coordination between the secretariats;

18. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Initiative through common action aimed at achieving the shared goals;

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[66] Resolution 70/1.

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative".

RESOLUTION 71/14

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.11, sponsored by: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

71/14. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling that one of the objectives of the United Nations is to achieve cooperation in maintaining international peace and security and solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities on the basis of regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 59/48 of 2 December 2004, by which it granted observer status to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 64/183 of 18 December 2009, 65/124 of 13 December 2010, 67/15 of 19 November 2012 and 69/11 of 11 November 2014 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also the Joint Declaration on Cooperation between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, dated 5 April 2010,

Noting that the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has become an essential regional organization for addressing security in the region in all its dimensions,

Recognizing the efforts of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to build the region of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization into a region of lasting peace, friendship, prosperity and harmony, in accordance with the Treaty on Long-term Good-neighbourliness, Friendship and Cooperation among the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, signed in Bishkek on 16 August 2007,

Noting the aspiration of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote stability and security based on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for cultural diversity and the pursuit of common development and to contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and taking note in this regard of the declaration on the fifteenth anniversary of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization signed by the Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Tashkent on 24 June 2016,

Welcoming the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to support the building of a world free of nuclear weapons, including in Central Asia, in strict compliance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[67]

Recognizing the efforts of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote counter-terrorism cooperation, including through the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure, and welcoming in this regard the protocol on cooperation between the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, signed on 22 July 2012,

Taking note of the revised version of the Regulations on Political and Diplomatic Measures and Mechanism of Response to Events Jeopardizing Regional Peace, Security and Stability of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and the Programme of Cooperation in Combating Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism for 2016–2018, which broadened the basis for security cooperation among the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization,

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[67] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Recognizing the significant importance and positive achievements in the implementation of the 2011–2016 Anti-Drug Strategy and Action Plan of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as an effective mechanism for regional cooperation in combating drugs in the context of strengthening practical cooperation to combat illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors in the region, based on the outcome of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, held in New York from 19 to 21 April 2016,[68] and encouraging the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to continue such cooperation in this field,

Welcoming the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in June 2011 with a view to effectively addressing, in cooperation with relevant international and regional actors, the production of and trade and trafficking in drugs,

Welcoming also the signing of memorandums of obligations by India and Pakistan to obtain status as member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as reflected in the outcome of the meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization held in Tashkent on 24 June 2016 on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as a practical step in the process of the enlargement of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as well as in the further enhancement of its potential and role in the international arena as a multilateral mechanism to address the urgent problems of modern times and to ensure security, stability and sustainable development in the region,

Noting the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to address international information security, taking note of the initiatives of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in this regard, and recognizing the need for further discussions in relevant forums,

Recognizing the efforts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to promote cooperation with other regional organizations, including the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia and the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Taking into consideration the fact that countries with economies in transition are among the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and in this regard recalling its resolution 61/210 of 20 December 2006, in which it proposed that the United Nations system enhance dialogue with regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and increase support provided to them,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization helps to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

1. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in securing peace and sustainable development, advancing regional cooperation and strengthening good-neighbourliness and mutual trust, and notes the activities of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening peace, security and stability in the region, countering terrorism, separatism and extremism, drug trafficking and other types of criminal activity of a transnational character and promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture and agro-industry, the regulation of migration, banking and finances, information and telecommunications, science and new technology, customs, education, public health, environmental protection and reducing the danger of natural disasters, as well as in other related areas;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and proposes that the Secretary-General, for this purpose, continue to hold regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization through the existing inter-agency forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

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[68] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

3. *Proposes* that the specialized agencies, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system cooperate with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization with a view to jointly implementing programmes to achieve their goals, and in this regard recommends that the heads of such entities continue consultations with the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy- third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 71/15

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.12 and Add.1, sponsored by: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

71/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM

The General Assembly,

Referring to its resolution 58/85 of 9 December 2003, by which it granted the GUUAM observer status in the General Assembly, and its resolution 67/109 of 17 December 2012, in which it took note that GUUAM had been transformed into the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM by the Heads of State of members of the organization in their Kyiv Declaration of 23 May 2006,[69]

Referring also to its resolution 69/271 of 2 April 2015,

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

Referring to Security Council resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, in which the Council recalled its invitation to regional organizations to improve coordination with the United Nations and the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994,[70]

Acknowledging the efforts of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM to develop partnership relations with the United Nations and its Member States, based on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as on the commitment to democratic values, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced that further developing cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM will further contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[71]

1. *Takes note* of the activity of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM aimed at promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture, disaster management, culture, science, education, public health, youth, tourism and sport, as well as countering terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, human trafficking, illegal migration and other types of criminal activity of a transnational nature, which contributes to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to that end welcomes the intention of the Organization for Democracy

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[69] A/60/875-S/2006/364, annex I.

[70] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[71] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

and Economic Development – GUAM to cooperate with the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, and to that end invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage in regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, utilizing for that purpose the appropriate inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, components, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM for the joint implementation of projects aimed at the attainment of common objectives, and in that context takes note of the existing practice of cooperation between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM".

RESOLUTION 71/16

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.14, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan

71/16. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in which it invited various specialized agencies, as well as other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant financial institutions, to join in the efforts towards realizing its goals and the objectives of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Appreciating the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen its relations with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations for the development and implementation of projects and programmes in areas of common interest,

Noting the efforts made by the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations in extending technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development and implementation of programmes and projects pertaining to socioeconomic progress, and encouraging them to continue their support,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 69/111 of 10 December 2014,[72] and acknowledges the growing cooperation between the two organizations;

2. *Takes note* of the Baku Declaration, issued at the twelfth Economic Cooperation Organization summit meeting of Heads of State and/or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Baku on 16 October 2012;[73]

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[72] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

[73] A/67/581, annex.

3. *Appreciates* the continuing efforts to strengthen the existing cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization, especially in the field of trade capacity-building of member States, notes with satisfaction the signing of the project document between the two organizations on 18 March 2014 for the implementation of the third phase of their joint programme, aimed at enhancing the capacity of member States to strengthen their standards, metrology, testing and quality infrastructure, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies to consider supporting the implementation of the project;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to develop strategies for the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization for trade liberalization and the promotion of foreign direct investment to facilitate the global and regional integration of their economies;

5. *Notes* the progress made on the trade facilitation programme of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, to support the Organization in developing a trade facilitation agreement, single windows in the member States, the TradeNet web portal and a unified visa system for facilitating the work of the region's businesspeople and enhancing regional trade;

6. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to implement the Economic Cooperation Organization Trade Agreement[74] for the enhancement of intraregional trade, and invites the World Trade Organization and the International Trade Centre to consider extending technical assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the implementation of the Trade Agreement and the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies to assist the States members of the Organization in the trade facilitation process, leading to the regional and global integration of their economies;

7. *Notes* the basic development needs of landlocked countries, including their need to overcome the limitations arising from their geographical positions, the lack of access to open seas and seaport facilities and other challenges hindering their promotion of transit transport cooperation, and invites the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and other relevant international and regional bodies to assist and cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization on the proposed study project of the Office and the Organization on the possibility of providing concessional services for landlocked countries in selected ports of transit countries of the region, within existing resources;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the approval of the railway network development plan of the Economic Cooperation Organization at the eleventh meeting of heads of railway authorities of the member States, held in Ankara in June 2012, and of the road network development plan at the sixth meeting of the Road Committee of the Transit Transport Coordination Council, held in Tehran in December 2013, and invites all the relevant international financial and specialized institutions to consider participating in the implementation of the plans, taking into account the key role played by the railway and road networks of the region as land bridges between Asia and Europe;

9. *Notes* the recommendations of the joint workshop of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe on a unified railway law, held in Ankara in June 2012, regarding the formulation of a unified law on international freight and passenger traffic by rail with a view to the facilitation of transport by rail in the region, and invites the relevant United Nations agencies to consider implementing the recommendations;

10. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe and other institutions for the reactivation of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention)[75] in Afghanistan, the accession of Pakistan to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail[76] in 2013 and the accession of Pakistan to the TIR Convention in 2016, and expresses its satisfaction for the test run of trucks transporting goods under cover of TIR carnets envisaged

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[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2562, No. 45696.

[75] Ibid., vol. 1079, No. 16510.

[76] Ibid., vol. 1397, No. 23353.

along the road transport corridor between Islamabad, Tehran and Istanbul, Turkey, with a view to the operationalization of the TIR Convention in Pakistan;

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop two road transport corridors, between Pakistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey, and between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, invites the relevant international and regional organizations, notably the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Islamic Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Europe, to consider participating in the fields of study, demonstration caravans and other activities envisaged in the project of the Economic Cooperation Organization to develop these corridors, within their respective mandates, and, noting the progress on development of the two road transport corridors, invites the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe to conduct a study on road safety along these corridors and to organize capacity-building programmes and training courses on road safety and security with the support of the relevant institutions, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization that have not done so to accede to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road,[77] the TIR Convention, the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods,[78] the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road[79] and the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other international bodies to provide the necessary support to the States members of the Organization, particularly for capacity-building activities and the holding of workshops;

13. *Invites* the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to cooperate with the Economic Cooperation Organization for the facilitation of transit trade among the States members of the Organization and the modernization of their border crossing points;

14. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Economic Cooperation Organization to conduct a feasibility study on the need for the development of information and communications technology, infrastructure connectivity and services in the region, and invites all relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the International Telecommunication Union, to consider providing, where appropriate, capacity-building and technical assistance to the Organization for the conduct and follow-up of the aforementioned study;

15. *Notes* the initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization to prepare a technical assistance project proposal on the implementation of the regional programmes for food security of the Economic Cooperation Organization under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme administered by the World Bank, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, to consider providing technical and financial assistance to the Economic Cooperation Organization for preparing and implementing detailed project proposals under the programme components suitable to the needs of the member States;

16. *Recognizes* the growing importance of tourism in the sustainable development of the region and its potential in the promotion of a sustainable economy, and invites the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies and other organizations, especially the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, to consider extending financial and technical support to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the development of regional projects related to tourism promotion and to support its programmes;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the recent efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at underlining the special and increasing role of renewable energy in complementing conventional energy in order to support sustainable energy development, and requests the relevant United Nations agencies to consider rendering financial and technical support, as appropriate, for regional projects in the fields of energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy;

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[77] Ibid., vol. 399, No. 5742.

[78] Ibid., vol. 1409, No. 23583.

[79] Ibid., vol. 619, No. 8940.

18. *Takes note* of the ongoing efforts within the Economic Cooperation Organization for the establishment of a regional electricity market, and invites the United Nations and other relevant international bodies, including the Energy Charter secretariat, to extend their support to this important environment-friendly initiative;

19. *Welcomes* the idea of the development of a joint programme by the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization for sustainable energy and, as its outcome, the establishment of a regional energy centre, and calls upon the relevant United Nations agencies and international financial institutions to consider extending their financial and technical support for the development and implementation stages of this programme;

20. *Recognizes* the significance of mutual cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in addressing the global challenges referred to in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and emphasizes the necessity of regular cooperation between the two organizations for achieving the goals envisaged in that resolution;

21. *Appreciates* the success of the second consultative ministerial meeting on environment of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Nairobi on 27 May 2016 on the sidelines of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and the meeting of senior officials of the Organization on the environment, held in Paris on 7 December 2015 on the sidelines of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and invites all donor-designated agencies and the United Nations Environment Programme to consider extending financial and technical assistance for regional projects, workshops and high-level group meetings in the field of the environment;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the success of the workshop held jointly by the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Economic Cooperation Organization in Tehran from 29 April to 1 May 2014 on harnessing climate financing for sustainable forest management in the region, and highly appreciates the key recommendation of the workshop to establish an inter-agency coordination group with the involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Global Environment Facility, as well as the possibility of granting observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization for the meetings of the United Nations Forum on Forests to enhance interregional coordination on climate change issues, including sustainable forest management;

23. *Also notes with satisfaction* the success of the second joint workshop of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Tehran from 26 to 30 October 2015, on regional capacity-building on designing projects on sustainable forest management in the region, and welcomes the meeting organized and convened jointly in Tehran from 26 to 28 September 2016 by the Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests to enhance the involvement of regional and subregional organizations in the development and implementation of the strategic plan of the international arrangement on forests, as well as enhancing coordination and synergy with regard to the implementation of the forest-related aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals;

24. *Appreciates* the enhanced cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and United Nations environmental agencies and the secretariats of conventions, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and welcomes the recent granting of observer status to the Organization with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

25. *Highlights* the importance of enhanced cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system concerning the health-related Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the relevant United Nations entities, especially the United Nations Development Programme, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, to consider extending technical and financial support to the Economic Cooperation Organization in this regard, as appropriate;

26. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to enhance cooperation in the field of health in the region in collaboration with international organizations and the specialized agencies, especially the World Health Organization, the International Society of Blood Transfusion, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Population Fund, and encourages their continued support for the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of health;

27. *Notes* the vulnerability of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to natural disasters, and urges the relevant United Nations institutions and agencies, including the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme, to consider expanding their cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization in the area of natural and man-made disaster risk reduction and also to consider extending their technical and financial support for the activities of the Organization in the field of natural disaster risk management in the region, including the ongoing efforts to prepare and implement the regional framework for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[80] in the region;

28. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization with the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in organizing and conducting the capacity-building workshop on the compilation of quarterly national accounts for States members of the Organization in March 2015, as well as with the other United Nations subsidiary bodies in the field of statistics, and invites the Division to consider extending technical and financial support for the design and implementation of a programme for the development of statistics in the region;

29. *Highlights* the importance of high-quality statistics as a tool for the implementation of development goals and the importance of future cooperation and partnership between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Statistics Division in this regard, and encourages the Division to consider extending technical and financial support to the Organization in the field of statistics, as appropriate;

30. *Appreciates* the joint cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in conducting, in Tehran from 24 to 28 July 2016, the refresher training workshop for focal points on the CountrySTAT system, as part of the second phase of the project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on support for the implementation and development of the CountrySTAT framework in the Economic Cooperation Organization countries;

31. *Welcomes* the joint cooperation of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in conducting, in Tehran from 8 to 10 December 2013, a training workshop on science, technology and innovation indicators for member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and invites the Institute to consider extending technical assistance for the development of statistical activities in the area of research and development and innovation statistics in the region;

32. *Appreciates* the efforts and activities of the Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit of the Economic Cooperation Organization in compiling and disseminating drug-related data, organizing workshops and training programmes aimed at enhancing the technical and professional expertise of the officials working in the relevant anti-narcotics forces and agencies of its member States, taking measures to harmonize the policies and drug-related laws and regulations of three member States, namely Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and contributing to the alternative development policies and programmes in Afghanistan, welcomes the successful completion of the European Union-funded project on the fight against trafficking from and to Afghanistan, and encourages the United Nations agencies and the donor community, such as the European Commission and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to provide technical and financial assistance to the Organization in its efforts against drug-related and other related crimes;

33. *Acknowledges* the ongoing efforts of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to strengthen regional cooperation to combat drugs and organized crime, including the establishment of a police mechanism, a regional judicial and legal cooperation mechanism and the Economic Cooperation Organization

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[80] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

regional centre for the cooperation of anti-corruption agencies and ombudsmen, and invites the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to assist and support those efforts;

34. *Appreciates* the contributions made by the Economic Cooperation Organization towards reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, commends its active participation in and constructive contributions to various regional and international initiatives on Afghanistan, especially appreciates its support for the high-level Core Group of Regional Forum Secretaries-General, established at the meeting of the regional bodies on 19 July 2010, the Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan and the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan,[81] and invites relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations to assist the Organization in implementing its new advocacy policies and programmes developed on the basis of the outcomes of its special conference on Afghanistan, held in Kabul from 22 to 24 October 2016;

35. *Notes with appreciation* the activities of the Cultural Institute, the Science Foundation and the Educational Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization as specialized arms of the Organization to foster regional cooperation among its member States in the fields of culture, science and education, respectively, and encourages the relevant specialized agencies of the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to cooperate with these bodies, within the scope of their mandate and existing resources, in order to develop and implement appropriate projects for the promotion of science and education in the region;

36. *Stresses* that all technical and financial support should be considered in line with the relevant mandates and as appropriate;

37. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Economic Cooperation Organization as an affiliated body of the Organization, and encourages the Assembly to contribute to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

39. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 71/17

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.15 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/17. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

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[81] A/66/601-S/2011/767, annex.

Recalling also its resolution 44/6 of 17 October 1989, in which it granted the Council of Europe a standing invitation to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law through its standards, principles and monitoring mechanisms, as well as to the effective implementation of relevant international legal instruments of the United Nations,

Acknowledging also the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, and noting the openness of the Council of Europe to the participation of States of other regions in its legal instruments,

Welcoming the role of the Council of Europe in building a united Europe without dividing lines, and the contribution of the Council of Europe to cohesion, stability and security in Europe,

Commending the increasing contribution of the Council of Europe, including at the parliamentary level, to democratic transition in its neighbouring regions aimed at promoting democratic institutions and procedures, and welcoming the readiness of the Council of Europe to further share its experience in democracy-building with interested countries on the basis of a demand-driven approach,

Welcoming the increasingly close relations between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and commending the contribution of the Permanent Delegations of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Offices at Geneva and at Vienna to the enhancement of cooperation and the achievement of greater synergy between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

Welcoming also the visit of the Secretary-General to the Council of Europe on 23 June 2015,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,[82]

1. *Reiterates its call for* the reinforcement of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe regarding the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the promotion of democracy and the rule of law and good governance at all levels, inter alia, the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings and violence against women, the fight against all forms of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, the promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, the protection of the rights and dignity of all members of society without discrimination on any grounds and the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, as well as the promotion of human rights education;

2. *Confirms its recognition* of the key role of the European Court of Human Rights in ensuring effective human rights protection under the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for the 800 million citizens in the 47 States members of the Council of Europe, and notes with interest the efforts to guarantee the long-term effectiveness of the Court system and to ensure the rapid and effective execution of Court judgments, as well as the ongoing work aiming at accession of the European Union to the Convention;

3. *Recognizes* the important role of the Council of Europe in upholding the rule of law and fighting impunity, including by strengthening the capacity of the national judiciaries of its member States to carry out their work consistent with the relevant international obligations of the member States in particular, and where applicable, those defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[83]

4. *Also recognizes* the role of the revised European Social Charter and of the European Committee of Social Rights in protecting economic and social rights, notes in this context the contribution that the Council of Europe can make in ensuring the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[84] and confirms its support for cooperation between the two organizations with respect to the eradication

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[82] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

[83] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[84] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

of poverty, the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, including persons with disabilities in sport, strengthening social cohesion and intergenerational solidarity and ensuring the protection of economic, social and cultural rights for all;

5. *Notes* the effective implementation of the joint declaration on the reinforcement of cooperation between the secretariat of the Council of Europe and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect encourages further cooperation between the United Nations, including the Human Rights Council, its special procedures, the Office of the High Commissioner and the human rights treaty bodies, and the Council of Europe, along with its Commissioner for Human Rights, with regard to promoting and ensuring respect for human rights and the role of human rights defenders;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the enhancement of cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, and in this context welcomes, in particular, the contribution of the Council of Europe to the universal periodic review regarding the situation of human rights in States members of the Council of Europe, and the adoption of a declaration supporting the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[85] as well as the adoption of the recommendation on human rights and business by the Council of Europe on 2 March 2016;

7. *Encourages* further cooperation, where appropriate, between the United Nations and the Council of Europe through their mechanisms on the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, takes note of the participation by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,[86] and supports the further development of cooperation in the penitentiary field with regard to combating prison overcrowding;

8. *Encourages* the Council of Europe to continue cooperation with the United Nations in the fight against trafficking in persons, recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings is open for accession by all States, and notes with interest the results of the monitoring activities carried out by the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and by the Committee of the Parties to the Convention;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs, as a follow-up to the joint Council of Europe/United Nations study on trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs, encourages further cooperation in this field, and recalls in this respect that the Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs is open for accession by all States;

10. *Welcomes and encourages* the enhancing of the close collaboration between the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Council of Europe to protect and promote the rights of the child, takes note of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016–2021), launched in Sofia, promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[87] in its member States, and recalls in this context that the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse is open for accession by all States;

11. *Welcomes* the reinforced action of the Council of Europe to promote the social inclusion and respect for human rights of the Roma, and encourages further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in this field;

12. *Also welcomes* the regular and active contribution of the Council of Europe to the sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the agreed and specified cooperation between the Council of Europe and

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[85] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[86] The revised rules were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/175 as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules on the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules).

[87] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), which includes support to member States, upon their request, in implementing commitments on gender equality and women's human rights, in particular access to justice and women's political participation, and the promotion of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014–2017, takes note of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, which is open for accession by all States, in this context encourages the above-mentioned bodies to continue to develop a fruitful collaboration in eliminating violence against women, including with the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and the achievement of de facto gender equality, and recognizes the important contribution of the Convention in eradicating this scourge;

13. *Encourages* continuing cooperation between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Council of Europe, including the Council of Europe Development Bank, in particular in the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights, and in the prevention and reduction of statelessness, welcomes, in the context of the ongoing large movements of refugees and migrants, the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[88] and encourages activities identifying durable solutions for refugees, including facilitating integration through education and the creation of employment opportunities, takes note of the nomination of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe for migration and refugees, and recognizes the importance of the interface offered by the presence at the Council of Europe of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, as well as by the Permanent Delegation of the Council of Europe to the United Nations Office at Geneva;

14. *Recognizes and encourages* the continuing close liaison and fruitful cooperation between United Nations missions and the Council of Europe offices in the field;

15. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the area of democracy and good governance, including through active participation in the Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy and engagement with youth representatives and civil society, as appropriate, and the strengthening of the links between the World Programme for Human Rights Education and the Council of Europe project on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights, and in this context welcomes the contribution to the activities of the International Contact Group on citizenship and human rights education;

16. *Notes* the important role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Council of Europe in supporting good local democratic governance, as well as the fruitful cooperation between them, encourages further deepening of the cooperation following the signature in February 2010 of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Council of Europe in this field, and calls for enhanced cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in the field of sustainable urban governance;

17. *Also notes* the contribution of the Council of Europe in protecting and promoting all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to freedom of expression and opinion and the freedom of the media, encourages further cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations in this regard, in particular with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, and in this context further notes the setting-up by the Council of Europe of a platform to promote the protection of journalism and the safety of journalists;

18. *Reaffirms* that, as the information society and the Internet develop, freedom of expression, as well as the right to privacy, as set out in article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[89] must be protected and respected, including as they relate to data protection, while recognizing lawful restrictions as set out in national legislation in accordance with international human rights law, acknowledges the importance of the work of the Council of Europe in protecting those rights, welcomes and encourages the cooperation between relevant United Nations agencies and special procedures of the Human Rights Council, including the Special Rapporteur on the

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[88] Resolution 71/1.

[89] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

right to privacy, and the Council of Europe, most notably with regard to the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, in particular in promoting greater multi-stakeholder participation and engagement in dialogue on Internet governance at the global, regional and national levels, takes note of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data, which is open for accession by all States, and recalls Assembly resolution 69/166 of 18 December 2014;

19. *Welcomes and encourages* the close cooperation between the two organizations in the fight against transnational organized crime, cybercrime, terrorism and money-laundering, as well as in the protection of the rights of victims of such crimes, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime and the Additional Protocol thereto, concerning the criminalization of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems, and the Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes Involving Threats to Public Health, as well as several other relevant Council of Europe conventions, are open for accession by all States;

20. *Welcomes and supports* the cooperation between the respective mechanisms concerning the prevention of and the fight against corruption, notably by reviewing and mutually reinforcing the implementation of international anti-corruption standards, and notes the Council of Europe conference entitled "Strengthening judicial independence and impartiality as a precondition for the rule of law in Council of Europe member States", held in Sofia on 21 and 22 April 2016, and the action plan adopted at the conference;

21. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Council of Europe to the promotion of the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[90] and the collaboration between their respective mechanisms regarding the fight against terrorism, including the financing of terrorism, in full respect of human rights and the rule of law, acknowledges the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014 on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts through the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, and recalls that the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism, including its Additional Protocol, and the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism are open for accession by all States;

22. *Also welcomes* the continued cooperation of the Council of Europe, where appropriate and in accordance with international drug control conventions, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board in the fight against drug abuse and drug trafficking, and notes the role played by the Pompidou Group in this regard;

23. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and the International Law Commission;

24. *Notes* the cooperation established between the Alliance of Civilizations and the Council of Europe following their signature of a memorandum of understanding on 29 September 2008 and the accession of the Alliance of Civilizations to the Faro Platform, encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Alliance of Civilizations on the one hand, and the Council of Europe and its North-South Centre on the other, to pursue their developing and fruitful collaboration in the field of intercultural dialogue, and takes note of the adoption of guidelines on the protection and promotion of human rights in culturally diverse societies by the Council of Europe in 2016;

25. *Also notes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the field of education, and encourages the extension of this cooperation, which should continue to focus on the role of education in developing just and humane societies characterized by the participation of individuals and the ability of individuals and societies to conduct intercultural dialogue, as well as on the encouragement of the diversity of cultural expressions;

26. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations

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[90] Resolution 60/288.

Development Programme on the organization of the first Global Forum on Youth Policies, which took place in Azerbaijan in October 2014, and encourages those organizations to continue their cooperation to promote and implement the Baku Commitment to Youth Policies as a contribution to the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;[91]

27. *Notes* the Council of Europe "No Hate Speech" movement, launched as a youth campaign against hate speech and for human rights online, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its cooperation with the Council of Europe on this theme;

28. *Invites* the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Council of Europe to combine their efforts in seeking answers to global challenges, within their respective mandates, including, in particular, in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[92] and calls upon all relevant United Nations bodies to support the enhancement of cooperation with the Council of Europe, as set out in relevant resolutions;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/18

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.16/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine

71/18. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution 69/13 of 11 November 2014,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,[93]

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/13,[94]

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[91] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[92] Resolution 70/1.

[93] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[94] See A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

1. *Recalls* the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 26 June 2012;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the wider Black Sea area;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the implementation of its economic agenda, "Towards an enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership", endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, in which the member States reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission and the project-oriented vision of the Organization;

4. *Values* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, environmental protection, sustainable development and entrepreneurship, communications, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceutics, culture, education, youth and sports, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to elaborate and realize concrete joint regional projects, particularly in the field of transport, which will contribute to the development of Euro-Asian transport links, and recalls, within this framework, the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway, the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Motorways of the Sea in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region and the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region;

6. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions, and welcomes the contacts between the Organization and the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Silk Road Fund and other financial institutions with a view to exploring the possibility of co-financing projects in the wider Black Sea area that are economically prudent and within their respective mandates;

7. *Acknowledges* the interest of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[95] bearing in mind the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development and that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

8. *Notes* the contributions of the bodies related to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting fruitful cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, in particular to developing practical and goal-oriented projects, in areas of common interest, as reiterated in the economic agenda endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

10. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the

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[95] Resolution 70/1.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the working contacts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with the World Bank aimed at promoting sustainable development in the Black Sea region;

11. *Welcomes* the capacity-building efforts within the Permanent International Secretariat of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the establishment of the Project Management Unit to develop and implement regional projects for the sustainable development of the Black Sea region, as well as the initiative to establish a project promotion facility focusing on the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technologies, developing small and medium-sized enterprises, improving regional and municipal infrastructure and increasing the export potential of the States of the region;

12. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activities and environmental protection;

13. *Also notes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to take measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the World Wide Fund for Nature;

14. *Further notes* the cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and within this framework welcomes the positive results of the ongoing joint project to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region, launched on 1 September 2007;

15. *Welcomes* the multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations on 2 July 2001;

16. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme of 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of 8 September 1997;

17. *Notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the commitment to broaden cooperation in the accomplishment of the mission of the Alliance, as established by the Secretary-General, and in the promotion of understanding and reconciliation among cultures, globally and regionally, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which was approved in Bucharest and signed in Baku;

18. *Also notes* the potential for cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union in the interest of realizing the Organization's goals beneficial to both sides;

19. *Further notes* the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives;

20. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

21. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue programmes with the Organization and its associated institutions for the achievement of their objectives;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 71/19

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.17 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uruguay

71/19. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/1 of 15 October 1996, in which it invited the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to participate as an observer in its sessions and work,

Recalling also the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL[96] and all other relevant cooperation agreements between them,

Recalling further all relevant United Nations resolutions recognizing that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations such as INTERPOL can contribute to tackling terrorism, including preventing foreign terrorist fighter travel, and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, including smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, intentional and unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property, piracy, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological materials, cybercrime, corruption and money-laundering and crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Acknowledging the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting the States Members of the United Nations that are also member countries of INTERPOL in preventing and responding to crime and in improving their law enforcement capabilities, upon their request,

Recognizing that INTERPOL is an apolitical and neutral international organization entrusted with the mandate of ensuring and promoting mutual assistance among criminal police authorities, in full respect of the sovereignty of Member States and consistent with the domestic laws and regulations of each Member State, and in accordance with the rules and regulations of INTERPOL,

Acknowledging that INTERPOL has been a key actor since 1923 in enabling and promoting international police cooperation in order to prevent and combat transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, through enhanced police cooperation among its member countries as well as in fostering innovation in police and law enforcement matters,

Acknowledging also the contributions derived from the global structure of the General Secretariat of INTERPOL, consisting of its seat in Lyon, France, its seven regional bureaux around the world, its Offices of the Special Representative at the United Nations, the European Union and the African Union and its Global Complex for Innovation,

Welcoming the role of the national central bureaux of INTERPOL, present in every member country, as the cornerstone of cooperation to enhance cohesion, stability and security and as the primary international policing hub, which links national police forces through its global network,

Noting the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with existing arrangements between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and INTERPOL,

Recognizing the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, through the fight against all forms of transnational crime, towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[97]

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[96] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1996, No. 1200.

[97] Resolution 70/1.

Welcoming the cooperation between the United Nations counter-terrorism entities and INTERPOL in preventing and countering terrorism by assisting Member States, upon their request, in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[98] including through information-sharing on foreign terrorist fighters and improvements in border security,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting Member States, upon their request, in tackling the illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological materials by non-State actors,

Convinced that increased and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitution of INTERPOL, as well as applicable international law, will contribute to achieving the respective purposes and principles of both organizations,

1. *Calls for* the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), within their respective mandates, in tackling terrorism, including preventing foreign terrorist fighter travel, and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, including smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, intentional and unlawful destruction of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property, piracy, illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, illicit trafficking in nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological materials, cybercrime, corruption and money-laundering and crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to create synergies within their respective mandates in the fight against transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime;

3. *Encourages* increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to assist Member States, upon their request, in effectively using the following resources readily available to Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL, through their national central bureaux:

(*a*) The INTERPOL I-24/7 global police secure communications system, which enables authorized users to share sensitive and urgent police information with their counterparts around the globe;

(*b*) INTERPOL databases, by populating them, as appropriate, with a view to sharing information with foreign counterparts in full respect of national sovereignty and operational priorities, through full access to them;

(*c*) Publication of INTERPOL notices and diffusions to alert and request assistance from foreign law enforcement;

(*d*) Criminal information analysis, namely, INTERPOL analytical products, to support national operational activities and investigations;

(*e*) INTERPOL training and capacity-building programmes and initiatives designed to improve national police capabilities;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of extending real-time access to the I-24/7 global police secure communications system from the national central bureaux of Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL to their other national law enforcement entities at strategic locations, such as border crossings, airports and customs and immigration posts, with a view to, inter alia, promoting increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", a sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)".

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[98] Resolution 60/288.

RESOLUTION 71/20

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 100 to 9, with 55 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.18 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

71/20. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 70/12 of 24 November 2015,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[99]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[100] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[101]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[102] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

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[99] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).

[100] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[101] S/2003/529, annex.

[102] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[103]

Recalling its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[104]

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Noting with deep regret the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[99] including the conclusions and valuable recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and in this regard authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people, particularly during this critical period of political instability, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[100] and the Quartet road map;[101]

5. *Commends* the efforts and activities of the Committee in upholding its mandate, including through cooperative initiatives with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations;

6. *Also commends* the efforts of the Working Group of the Committee in coordinating the efforts of international and regional civil society organizations regarding the question of Palestine;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation that they have at their disposal;

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[103] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[104] A/67/738.

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation and support to the Committee in the performance of its tasks, recalling its repeated call for all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to compile a report to the General Assembly, pursuant to resolution 69/20 of 25 November 2014, on the economic costs of the Israeli occupation for the Palestinian people, and, while drawing attention to the alarming findings, as reflected in the recent report on United Nations Conference on Trade and Development assistance to the Palestinian people: developments in the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[105] calls for the exertion of all efforts for the provision of necessary resources to expedite completion of the report, including the facilitation and coordination of pertinent inputs from the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

11. *Requests* the Committee, in the light of the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, to focus its activities throughout 2017 on efforts and initiatives to end the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and to organize activities in this regard, within existing resources and in cooperation with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations, aimed at raising international awareness and mobilizing efforts as a contribution towards the achievement of a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the facilities necessary for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 71/21

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 98 to 9, with 57 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

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[105] TD/B/63/3 and Corr.1.

71/21. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[106]

Taking note, in particular, of the action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 70/13 of 24 November 2015,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 70/13;

2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a most useful and constructive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to effectively carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee and under its guidance;

4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, to organize international meetings and activities in support of the Committee's mandate with the participation of all sectors of the international community and to ensure, within existing resources, the continued participation of eminent persons and international renowned experts in these meetings and activities, to be invited on a par with the members of the Committee, to liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, including through the Working Group of the Committee and its associated "UN Platform for Palestine", to develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, to prepare and widely disseminate the publications listed in paragraph 79 of the report of the Committee,[106] in the relevant official languages of the United Nations, and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and to develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Government in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 71/22

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 153 to 7, with 7 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.20 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour*: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[106] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Honduras, Nauru, Paraguay, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

71/22. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[107]

Taking note, in particular, of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 70/14 of 24 November 2015,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[108] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,[109]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[110]

Taking note of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 70/14;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation

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[107] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/71/35).

[108] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[109] S/2003/529, annex.

[110] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of peace efforts and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for 2017–2018, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and peace efforts, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the objective of peace;

(*b*) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual and online materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning relevant recent developments, in particular the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and peace efforts and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular through its annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists;

4. *Encourages* the Department to formulate ways for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

RESOLUTION 71/23

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 153 to 7, with 7 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Tonga, Vanuatu

71/23. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Recalling the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting with concern that it has been 69 years since the adoption of its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and 49 years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 70/15 of 24 November 2015,[111]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[112] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Stressing that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[113] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and reiterating the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights and of developing friendly relations among nations irrespective of their political, economic and social systems or the level of their development,

Noting with deep regret the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern about the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including on the contiguity, integrity and viability of the Territory, the viability of the two-State solution based on the pre-1967 borders and the efforts to advance a peaceful settlement in the Middle East,

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[111] A/71/359-S/2016/732.

[112] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[113] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Expressing grave concern also about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children, and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands, condemning acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Reaffirming the illegality of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem, including settlement construction and expansion, home demolitions, evictions of Palestinian residents, excavations in and around religious and historic sites, and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the city and of the Territory as a whole, and demanding their immediate cessation,

Expressing its grave concern about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

Reaffirming that the construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Encouraging all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlements,

Expressing deep concern about the continuing Israeli policies of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian and economic, via the imposition of prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, as well as of checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing deep concern also about the consequent negative impact of such policies on the contiguity of the Territory and the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation of the Palestinian people, which remains a disastrous humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip, as well as on the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the damaged Palestinian economy, including reviving the agricultural and productive sectors, while taking note of developments regarding the situation of access there based on the trilateral agreement facilitated by the United Nations in this regard and on the resumption of some trade from Gaza to the West Bank for the first time since 2007, and, while recalling Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009, calling for the full lifting of restrictions on the movement and access of persons and goods, taking into account the Agreement on Movement and Access of November 2005, including exports, which are crucial for social and economic recovery,

Recalling the mutual recognition 23 years ago between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[114] and stressing the urgent need for efforts to ensure full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Security Council, in its resolution 1515 (2003), of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[115] and the call in Council resolution 1850 (2008) for the parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map and to refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations on a final peace settlement,

Stressing the road map obligation upon Israel to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Recalling the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002, and stressing its importance in the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace,[116]

Urging renewed and coordinated efforts by the international community aimed at restoring a political horizon and advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and ultimately of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

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[114] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[115] S/2003/529, annex.

[116] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Welcoming, in this regard, the initiative launched by France aimed at mobilizing international support for Palestinian-Israeli peace and convening an international peace conference, the ongoing efforts of the Quartet in the recent period to address the unsustainable situation on the ground and to promote meaningful negotiations and the ongoing regional efforts to advance the Arab Peace Initiative, as well as the respective efforts by Egypt and the Russian Federation,

Taking note of the joint communiqué, issued on 3 June 2016 at the Paris ministerial meeting, reaffirming the commitment to the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and calling, inter alia, for efforts to support the efforts of the parties to advance the prospects for peace,

Taking note also of the report of the Quartet of 1 July 2016,[117] and stressing its recommendations as well as its recent statements, including those of 30 September 2015, 23 October 2015, 12 February 2016 and 23 September 2016, in which, inter alia, grave concerns were expressed that current trends on the ground are steadily eroding the two-State solution and entrenching a one-State reality and in which recommendations were made to reverse those trends in order to advance the two-State solution on the ground and create the conditions for successful final status negotiations,

Reiterating support for the convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) and the Quartet statement of 23 September 2011, for the advancement and acceleration of the peace efforts towards the fulfilment of its stated objectives,

Noting the important contribution to peace efforts of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, including within the framework of the activities of the Quartet and with regard to the recent trilateral agreement regarding the Gaza Strip,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, under the chairmanship of Norway, and noting its recent meeting at United Nations Headquarters, on 19 September 2016, and the ongoing efforts to generate sufficient donor support in this critical period for urgently addressing the immense humanitarian, reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, bearing in mind the detailed needs assessment and recovery framework for Gaza developed with the support of the United Nations, the World Bank and the European Union, and furthering Palestinian economic recovery and development,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Government, with international support, to reform, develop and strengthen its institutions and infrastructure, emphasizing the need to preserve and further develop Palestinian institutions and infrastructure, despite the obstacles presented by the ongoing Israeli occupation, and commending in this regard the ongoing efforts to develop the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, including through the implementation of the Palestinian National Policy Agenda: National Priorities, Policies and Policy Interventions (2017–2022),

Expressing concern about the risks posed to the significant achievements made, as confirmed by the positive assessments made by international institutions regarding readiness for statehood, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, owing to the negative impact of the current instability and financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Government and the continued absence of a credible political horizon,

Recognizing the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing development support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

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[117] S/2016/595, annex.

Urging the full disbursement of pledges made at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, on 12 October 2014, for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process,

Welcoming the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and Jakarta in March 2014 as a forum for the mobilization of political and economic assistance, including via exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development, and encouraging the expansion of such efforts and support in the light of worsening socioeconomic indicators,

Recognizing the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, noting the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Recognizing also that security measures alone cannot remedy the tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

Gravely concerned over the negative developments that have continued to occur in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the escalation of violence and any excessive use of force, resulting in a large number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, including children and women, as well as the continued construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, the arbitrary arrest and detention of more Palestinian civilians, the acts of violence, vandalism and brutality committed against Palestinian civilians by Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the widespread destruction of public and private Palestinian property, including religious sites, and infrastructure and the demolition of homes, including if carried out as a means of collective punishment, the internal forced displacement of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and the consequent deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people,

Deploring the conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and the elderly, and the widespread destruction of thousands of homes and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in this regard,

Taking note of the report and findings of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[118] and stressing the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

Expressing grave concern over the persisting disastrous humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions in the Gaza Strip as a result of the prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, in November 2012 and between December 2008 and January 2009, particularly as a result of the widespread destruction and trauma inflicted and delays in reconstruction and recovery,

Expressing grave concern also about the lasting consequences of such conflicts on the civilian population and the living conditions in the Gaza Strip, as reflected in numerous reports, including the report of 26 August 2016 of the United Nations country team, entitled, "Gaza: two years after", and stressing that the situation is unsustainable and that urgent efforts are required to reverse the de-development trajectory in Gaza and respond adequately and immediately to the humanitarian needs of the civilian population,

Recalling the statement of the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,[119]

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[118] A/HRC/29/52.

[119] S/PRST/2014/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

Stressing the need for calm and restraint by the parties, including by consolidating the ceasefire agreement of 26 August 2014, achieved under the auspices of Egypt, to avert the deterioration of the situation,

Reiterating the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Stressing that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Expressing concern over the continued imposition of hundreds of checkpoints and obstacles to movement in and around Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces, and emphasizing in this regard the need for the implementation by both sides of the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings,

Expressing grave concern about the imprisonment and detention by Israel of thousands of Palestinians, including children, under harsh conditions, and all violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law which have occurred in this regard,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, including the firing of rockets,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, consistent with the provisions and obligations of international humanitarian law,

Stressing also the need to respect the right of peaceful assembly,

Welcoming the formation of the Palestinian Government of national consensus under the leadership of the President, Mahmoud Abbas, consistent with Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles, and emphasizing the need for respect for and the preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Affirming the need to support the Palestinian Government of national consensus in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points,

Stressing the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement and for concerted initiatives to support the parties in building a climate for peace, to assist the parties in advancing and accelerating direct peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement that ends the occupation which began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its other neighbours, on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, the Quartet road map and the Arab Peace Initiative,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[120]

Taking note also of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[121]

Noting the accession by Palestine, on 1 April 2014, to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions,

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

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[120] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[121] A/67/738.

Recalling the findings by the International Court of Justice, in its advisory opinion, including on the urgent necessity for the United Nations as a whole to redouble its efforts to bring the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which continues to pose a threat to international peace and security, to a speedy conclusion, thereby establishing a just and lasting peace in the region,[122]

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects, and of intensifying all efforts towards that end, and stresses in this regard the urgency of salvaging the prospects for realizing the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders, and making tangible progress towards implementing that solution and justly resolving all final status issues;

2. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts by the parties, including through negotiations, with the support of the international community, towards the conclusion of a final peace settlement;

3. *Urges* the undertaking of renewed international efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[116] the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[115] and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides;

4. *Stresses* the need for a resumption of negotiations based on the long-standing terms of reference and clear parameters and within a defined time frame aimed at expediting the realization of a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement, and in this regard encourages serious efforts by all concerned international and regional partners, including by the United States of America, the European Union, the Russian Federation and the United Nations, as members of the Quartet, and by the League of Arab States;

5. *Commends and encourages* continued serious regional and international efforts to follow up and promote the Arab Peace Initiative, including by the Ministerial Committee formed at the Riyadh summit in March 2007;

6. *Welcomes* the initiative launched by France aimed at mobilizing international support for Palestinian-Israeli peace and convening an international peace conference, the ongoing efforts of the Quartet to address the unsustainable situation on the ground and to promote meaningful negotiations, while stressing its recommendations, and the respective efforts by Egypt and the Russian Federation to promote dialogue and negotiations between the two parties;

7. *Calls for* the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

8. *Calls upon* both parties to act responsibly on the basis of international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in both their policies and actions, in order to urgently reverse negative trends on the ground and create the conditions necessary for the launching of a credible political horizon and the advancement of peace efforts;

9. *Calls upon* the parties themselves, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, to exert all efforts necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation, to reverse all unilateral and unlawful measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, to take every possible step to promote conditions conducive to the success of peace negotiations and to refrain from actions that undermine trust or prejudge final status issues;

10. *Calls upon* the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and

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[122] A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1, advisory opinion, para. 161.

calls for respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, in word and in practice, and for immediate and serious efforts to defuse tensions;

11. *Underscores* the need for the parties to take confidence-building measures aimed at improving the situation on the ground, promoting stability, building trust and fostering the peace process, and stresses the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all settlement activities and home demolitions, ending violence and incitement and undertaking measures to address settler violence and ensure accountability, and for the further release of prisoners and an end to arbitrary arrests and detentions;

12. *Stresses* the need for the removal of checkpoints and other obstructions to the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

13. *Also stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

14. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

15. *Reiterates* the need for the full implementation by both parties of the Agreement on Movement and Access and of the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, and the need, specifically, to allow for the sustained opening of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip for humanitarian supplies, movement and access of persons and goods, as well as for commercial flows, including exports, and all necessary construction materials, and stresses the urgent need to promote accelerated and comprehensive reconstruction and to address the alarming unemployment rate, including among youth, including through the implementation of United Nations-led projects, civilian reconstruction activities and job-creation programmes, all of which are essential for alleviating the disastrous humanitarian situation, including the impact of the large-scale displacement of civilians in July and August 2014, improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people and promoting the recovery of the Palestinian economy;

16. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law and all unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Territory, including the confiscation and de facto annexation of land, and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations, with a view to achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967;

17. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and for the consideration of measures of accountability, in accordance with international law, in the case of continued non-compliance, stressing that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone for peace and security in the region;

18. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the need for Israel forthwith to abide by its road map obligation to freeze all settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle settlement outposts erected since March 2001;

19. *Calls for* the cessation of all provocations, including by Israeli settlers, in East Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites;

20. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[112] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003 and ES-10/15, and, inter alia, that it immediately cease its construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and calls upon all States Members of the United Nations to comply with their legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion;

21. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

22. *Calls for:*

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

23. *Stresses* the need for a just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

24. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Government during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is dire in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

RESOLUTION 71/24

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 103 to 6, with 56 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu

71/24. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[123]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

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[123] A/71/328 and Add.1.

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[124] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[124] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/25

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 30 November 2016, by a recorded vote of 149 to 7, with 8 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.22 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour*: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea,

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[124] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Vanuatu

71/25. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further the Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" on Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[125] and recalling its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Expressing its grave concern about any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Expressing its grave concern also, in particular, about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of illegal settlement activities, including measures regarding the so-called E-1 plan, its construction of the wall in and around East Jerusalem, its restrictions on Palestinian access to and residence in East Jerusalem and the further isolation of the city from the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are having a detrimental effect on the lives of Palestinians and could prejudge a final status agreement on Jerusalem,

Expressing its grave concern further about the continuing Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes and other civilian infrastructure in and around East Jerusalem, the revocation of residency rights, and the eviction and displacement of numerous Palestinian families from East Jerusalem neighbourhoods, including Bedouin families, as well as other acts of provocation and incitement, including by Israeli settlers, in the city, including desecration of mosques and churches,

Expressing its concern about the Israeli excavations undertaken in the Old City of Jerusalem, including in and around religious sites,

Expressing its grave concern, in particular, about tensions, provocations and incitement regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and urging restraint and respect for the sanctity of the holy sites by all sides,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

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[125] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[126]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever, and calls upon Israel to immediately cease all such illegal and unilateral measures;

2. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by people of all religions and nationalities;

3. *Also stresses* the need for the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, and expresses its grave concern in particular about the recent series of negative incidents in East Jerusalem;

4. *Calls for* respect for the historic status quo at the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, in word and practice, and urges all sides to work immediately and cooperatively to defuse tensions and halt all provocations, incitement and violence at the holy sites in the City;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/123

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Fiji, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America

71/123. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 70/75 of 8 December 2015, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[127] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement),[128]

Welcoming ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in order to improve their management regimes,

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[126] A/71/328 and Add.1.

[127] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[128] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

Acknowledging the report of the resumed Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 23 to 27 May 2016, which reaffirmed and consolidated the recommendations adopted in 2006 and in 2010, and adopted additional recommendations,[129]

Taking note of the summary of the discussions at the two-day workshop held on 1 and 2 August 2016 to discuss the implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 of 4 December 2009 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 of 6 December 2011, prepared by its moderator,[130]

Welcoming the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and recognizing in particular the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Code) and other related instruments, including the international plans of action, which set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries, as well as the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

Welcoming also the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the thirty-second session of the Committee on Fisheries, held in Rome from 11 to 15 July 2016,[131]

Recognizing the importance of data collection through accurate and reliable reporting and monitoring of catches, including by-catch and discards, as a fundamental element of effective fisheries management that provides a basis for scientific stock assessment, and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management,

Noting with concern that effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable and incomplete information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data contributes to overfishing in some areas, and in this regard recalling that members of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements must fully comply with their associated data collection and reporting obligations, including to ensure that required data submissions are complete, reliable and submitted in a timely manner,

Recognizing the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment, which provides information on the state of the marine environment, including fisheries,

Recognizing also the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

Welcoming in this regard the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

Recalling its decision to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, as well as its resolution 70/303 of 9 September 2016 on modalities for that Conference,

Welcoming in this regard the continuous attention given by the international community to the role of fish and fish products in nutrition and food security, including by the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, especially noting the importance of the availability of highly nutritious food for low-income populations,

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[129] A/CONF.210/2016/5.

[130] See A/71/377.

[131] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2017/23.

Recalling that, in "The future we want",[132] States were encouraged to give due consideration to implementing the Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,

Welcoming in this regard the convening by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of Tenure and Fishing Rights 2015: A global forum on rights-based approaches for fisheries,[133] and the subsequent development of a global work programme on advancing knowledge on rights-based approaches for fisheries to improve governance of fisheries by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication,

Recognizing the urgent need for action at all levels, relying on scientific advice, to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

Expressing concern over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, and noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Paris Agreement[134] following the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by its parties, and noting that it aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, including by increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience,

Reaffirming its commitment to ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements are based on the best available scientific information,

Taking note of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2016*, and expressing concern that 31.4 per cent of marine fish stocks are overfished,

Expressing its support for accelerating work to complete the ongoing negotiations in the World Trade Organization to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing,

Concerned that only a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Particularly concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing continues to constitute a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Concerned that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

Recognizing that effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications,

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[132] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[133] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2016/7.2.

[134] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Recognizing also that fishing by vessels without nationality on the high seas undermines relevant objectives of the Convention and the Agreement to conserve and sustainably manage marine resources, and noting with concern that fishing vessels without nationality operate on the high seas without governance and oversight,

Recognizing further the role of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels in the concerted fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

Recognizing the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (the Compliance Agreement),[135] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea on the request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Subregional Fisheries Commission, issued on 2 April 2015,

Recognizing the importance of adequately regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment at sea to contribute to combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities,

Noting the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of living marine resources,

Acknowledging the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

Welcoming in this regard the adoption of measures by States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to protect ocean data buoy systems from the impacts of fishing activities,

Encouraging States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to cooperate to ensure that interactions between fishing operations and ocean data buoys on the high seas are minimized,

Recognizing the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat overfishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

Noting with satisfaction the recent ratifications, acceptances and approval of and accessions to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[136] which have resulted in the entry into force of that Agreement,

Recognizing the efforts of States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement its resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, in which the General Assembly called for a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, including collaborative fisheries enforcement activities,

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[135] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

[136] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2009/REP and Corr.1–3, appendix E.

Concerned that marine pollution from all sources constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

Recognizing that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, owing to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to its prevention and removal are necessary, including identification of such sources and environmentally sound techniques for its removal, and noting that the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea focused its discussions at its seventeenth meeting, held from 13 to 17 June 2016, on marine debris, plastics and microplastics,

Recognizing also that abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including ghost fishing gear, is an increasingly pervasive and destructive form of marine debris causing adverse impacts on fish stocks, marine life and the marine environment and that urgent preventative action is needed, such as marking of fishing gear as proposed by the Committee on Fisheries, as well as removal action,

Reaffirming the importance of sustainable aquaculture to food security, noting that aquaculture is already making a significant contribution to the global seafood supply and that a further increase in that contribution is anticipated,

Noting that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and nutrition and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture-producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

Noting in this regard the concern about the potential effects of genetically engineered aquatic fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks,

Recognizing the efforts made by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in regulating deep-sea fisheries, while still concerned that some deep-sea fishing activities in certain areas are being carried out without full implementation of relevant paragraphs of previous resolutions, representing a threat to vulnerable marine ecosystems,

Calling attention to the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities whose livelihoods, economic development and food security are heavily dependent on sustainable fisheries and will suffer disproportionately if sustainable fisheries are negatively affected,

Calling attention also to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries- and aquaculture-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to exercise their rights in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources and fulfil their obligations under international instruments,

Recognizing the need to adopt, implement and enforce appropriate measures to minimize waste, by-catch and discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors that adversely affect the sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems and, consequently, can also have harmful effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

Recognizing also the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,[137] the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11[138] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

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[137] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[138] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

Recognizing further the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

Welcoming in this regard the review by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its ongoing work in this regard,

Noting with concern that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

Welcoming science-based measures taken by States to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, and noting in this respect management measures taken by coastal States, including limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, sanctuaries, closed seasons and areas and monitoring, control and surveillance,

Noting the decisions on sharks and rays adopted at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 24 September to 5 October 2016, inter alia, the inclusion of additional species of sharks and rays in appendix II to that Convention,[139] and recalling the ongoing work of the secretariat of that Convention and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on capacity-building in this regard,

Recalling that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, in 2014, listed 21 species of sharks and rays under the appendices to that Convention,[140]

Noting with concern the continuing practice of the removal of fins from sharks, with the remainder of the carcass being discarded at sea,

Recognizing the importance of marine species occupying low trophic levels in the ecosystem and for food security, and the need to ensure their long-term sustainability,

Expressing concern over continued incidental mortality, in fishing operations, of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species, marine mammals and marine turtles, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce incidental mortality as a result of by-catch,

Noting with concern the significant threat that invasive alien species pose to marine ecosystems and resources,

I

Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[127] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;[128]

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

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[139] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[140] Ibid., vol. 1651, No. 28395.

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in "The future we want",[132] States addressed the sustainable development of fisheries, recognized the significant contribution of fisheries to the three dimensions of sustainable development and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, and encourages States to implement the commitments made in "The future we want";

4. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

5. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[141] in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015, and recalls that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to intensify their efforts to meet that target and to urgently take the measures necessary to maintain or restore all stocks at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, with the aim of achieving those goals in the shortest time feasible, as determined by their biological characteristics, and in order to achieve this, to urgently develop and implement science-based management plans, including by reducing or suspending fishing catch and fishing effort commensurate with the status of the stock, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for the full implementation of the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway";[142]

7. *Urges* States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them, in particular the most affected ones;

8. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

9. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to assess the risks and potential adverse impacts of climate change with respect to fish stocks, consider them when establishing conservation and management measures and identifying options to reduce risks and adverse impacts with respect to fisheries management and the health and resilience of marine ecosystems and enhance efforts to cooperate to collect, exchange and publish scientific and technical data and best practices related to the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, and to assist developing States in this regard, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change;

10. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

11. *Urges* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts, including through international cooperation, to promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem

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[141] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[142] Resolution 69/15, annex.

approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

12. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific target and limit precautionary reference points, which for target reference points are intended to meet management objectives, as described in annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks and, where necessary, associated or dependent species, are maintained at or restored to sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

13. *Encourages* States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish and implement rebuilding and recovery strategies and plans where a stock is identified as being overfished, which should include time frames and probabilities of recovery aimed at bringing the stock back at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, and guided by scientific assessment and subjected to periodic evaluation of progress;

14. *Also encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

15. *Further encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

16. *Calls upon in this regard* States, individually in line with their national legislation or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to take steps as appropriate to ensure the safety of observers;

17. *Encourages* States to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, accurate, complete, reliable and effective data collection and reporting of required data on catches, including by-catch and discards, reviewing and validating the data, and providing catch information in support of scientific stock assessment and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management;

18. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

19. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

20. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt and implement measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality and, where scientific information is uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries and urgently establishing science-based management measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks, and encourages the full utilization of dead sharks caught in the context of sustainably managed fisheries;

21. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and national measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

22. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

23. *Encourages* range States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to become signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,[140] and invites non-range States, intergovernmental organizations and international and national non-governmental organizations or other relevant bodies and entities to consider becoming cooperating partners;

24. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to cooperate in establishing non-detriment findings for shared stocks of marine species listed in appendices I and II to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[139] consistent with the concepts and non-binding guiding principles contained in resolution Conf. 16.7 on non-detriment findings adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

25. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

26. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to observing the need to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples and their communities, particularly in developing countries, especially small island developing States;

27. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources, and encourages States to consider promoting, as appropriate, participatory management schemes for small-scale fisheries in accordance with national laws, regulations and practices, as well as the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

28. *Welcomes* the convening by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of Entebbe 2016: Advancing a global work programme for rights-based approaches for fisheries, in Entebbe, Uganda, from 1 to 4 March 2016;

29. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to analyse, as appropriate, the impact of fishing for marine species corresponding to low trophic levels;

30. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the initiation of further studies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the impact of industrial fishing activities on species corresponding to low trophic levels;

31. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider the potential effects of genetically engineered fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks and on the biodiversity of the aquatic environment and to provide guidance, consistent with the Code, on minimizing harmful impacts in this regard;

32. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with other relevant international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization, to promote awareness and cooperation to develop and strengthen capacity to prevent, minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity, including fish stocks;

II

Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

33. *Welcomes* the most recent accession to the Agreement and calls upon all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

34. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their national legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

35. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

36. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

37. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

38. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement, including, inter alia, those to ensure the safety of the crew and the inspectors;

39. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

40. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

41. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the special requirements of developing States, including small island developing States as highlighted in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate in the establishment of conservation and management measures for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the need to ensure, where appropriate, in accordance with article 24, paragraph 2 (*c*), of the Agreement, that such measures do not transfer a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, and notes in this regard ongoing efforts to better develop a common understanding of this concept;

42. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

43. *Urges* States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement;

44. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division) to continue their efforts to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund;

45. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,[143] and the identification of emerging priorities;

46. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010;[144]

47. *Welcomes* the convening of the resumed Review Conference in New York from 23 to 27 May 2016;

48. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference;[145]

49. *Welcomes* the fact that the resumed Review Conference agreed to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2020, to be agreed at a future round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

50. *Acknowledges*, in particular, the commitments made at the resumed Review Conference to the continued implementation of the Agreement through the application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, the urgent improvement of the status of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, strengthened interaction of the science-policy interface and the strong emphasis on collaboration, at all levels, for improved global fisheries outcomes;

51. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his updated report submitted to the resumed Review Conference in accordance with paragraph 41 of resolution 69/109 of 9 December 2014 to assist the Review Conference in discharging its mandate under article 36, paragraph 2, of the Agreement;[146]

52. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001, takes note of the report on the twelfth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, and requests the Secretary-General to convene in 2018 a thirteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

53. *Recalls* that the resumed Review Conference in 2016 recommended that the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement be dedicated, on an annual basis, to the consideration of specific issues arising from the implementation of the Agreement, with a view to improving understanding, sharing experiences and identifying best practices for the consideration of States parties, as well as the General Assembly and the Review Conference, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to invite States parties and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2(*b*), of the Agreement to propose specific issues to be considered at the thirteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement and bring those proposals to the attention of the informal consultations concerning the annual resolution of the Assembly on sustainable fisheries through its Coordinator;

54. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing in the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

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[143] See A/CONF.210/2006/15, annex.

[144] See A/CONF.210/2010/7, annex.

[145] See A/CONF.210/2016/5.

[146] A/CONF.210/2016/1.

55. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

III

Related fisheries instruments

56. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement,[135] and urges continued efforts in this regard;

57. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

58. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

59. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

60. *Reiterates* the importance of responding to the web-based questionnaire of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for monitoring the implementation of the Code and the international plans of action and strategies;

61. *Encourages* the development of best-practice guidelines for safety at sea in connection with marine fisheries by the competent international organizations;

62. *Encourages* States to consider signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

63. *Notes*, in this regard, that the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization, at its twenty-ninth session, held in London from 23 November to 2 December 2015, adopted resolution A.1107 (29) on the entry into force and implementation of the 2012 Cape Town Agreement, in which the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization urged Governments to consider accepting that Agreement at the earliest possible opportunity;

IV

Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

64. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to fish stocks and marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all steps necessary to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

65. *Welcomes* the endorsement by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of a proposal for an international day for the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to take further action in this regard;

66. *Recalls in this regard* that, in "The future we want", States acknowledged that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing deprive many countries of a crucial natural resource and remain a persistent threat to their sustainable development and recommitted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as advanced in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and to prevent and combat those practices, including by developing and implementing national and regional action plans in accordance with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, implementing, in accordance with international

law, effective and coordinated measures by coastal States, flag States, port States, chartering nations and the States of nationality of the beneficial owners and others who support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by identifying vessels engaged in such fishing and by depriving offenders of the benefits accruing from it, as well as by cooperating with developing countries to systematically identify needs and build capacity, including support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems;

67. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of an increasing number of national plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider developing such plans;

68. *Urges* flag States to strengthen effective jurisdiction and control over vessels flying their flag, and to exercise due diligence, including by developing or amending national rules and regulations, where needed, in order to ensure that such vessels do not engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, while reaffirming the importance, under international law, including as reflected in the Convention, of the responsibilities of flag States regarding fishing vessels flying their flag, including with respect to safety at sea and labour conditions on fishing vessels;

69. *Urges* States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

70. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to establish penalties for non-compliance by vessels involved in fishing or fishing-related activities and their nationals, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable national law and consistent with international law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits from their illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities;

71. *Urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

72. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

73. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

74. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

75. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

76. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear

evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

77. *Reaffirms* paragraph 53 of its resolution 64/72 with regard to eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" and requiring that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and urges States operating open registry to effectively control all fishing vessels flying their flag, as required by international law, or otherwise stop open registry for fishing vessels;

78. *Notes* the challenges posed by vessels determined under international law to be without nationality that are fishing on the high seas and that such vessels are engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities as defined under the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and encourages States to take necessary measures where appropriate, consistent with international law, including enacting domestic legislation, in order to prevent and deter vessels without nationality from engaging in or supporting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

79. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to consider adopting rules, consistent with international law, to ensure that chartering arrangements and practices related to fishing vessels enable compliance with and enforcement of relevant conservation and management measures, so as not to undermine efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

80. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

81. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing on 5 June 2016,[136] and encourages States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Agreement;

82. *Notes* the capacity development programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and related instruments, which contributes to the development of national capacity of both parties and non-parties, including the strengthening of the institutional, operational and enforcement capacity of developing States with a view to maximizing the benefits of its implementation;

83. *Also notes*, in this regard, the regional workshops convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on implementing the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, most recently held for the Mediterranean in Tirana from 29 February to 4 March 2016;

84. *Encourages* strengthened collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, taking into account the respective competencies, mandates and experience of the two organizations, to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, particularly in improving the implementation of flag State responsibilities and port State measures;

85. *Also encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

86. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through adequate regulation, monitoring and control of trans-shipment of fish at sea, including through additional national measures applicable to vessels flying their flag to prevent such trans-shipment;

87. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

88. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the development of best-practice guidelines for catch documentation schemes and traceability, in accordance with its agreed terms of reference and framework principles;

89. *Calls upon* States to finalize as soon as possible their work within the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the elaboration, in accordance with international law, including the agreements established under the World Trade Organization, of guidelines and other relevant criteria relating to catch documentation schemes, including possible formats;

90. *Notes*, in this regard, that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-second session, authorized the technical consultation on the draft guidelines for catch documentation schemes to resume its session with a view to finalizing the guidelines and submitting them to the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in July 2017, and called for greater flexibility and cooperation among its members to finalize the guidelines;[131]

91. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries, and taking into account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

92. *Acknowledges* the development of participatory surveillance activities at sea involving fishing communities in West Africa as a cost-effective way of detecting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

93. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries at the proliferation of private standards and ecolabelling schemes potentially leading to the creation of trade barriers and restrictions, and also notes the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an evaluation framework to assess the conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes through the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries;

94. *Also notes* the concerns about possible connections between transnational organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and transnational organized crime;

V

Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

95. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

96. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee on Fisheries has urged its members to start implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance[147] as soon as possible, and urges all flag States to implement those Guidelines as soon as possible, including, as a first step, by carrying out a voluntary assessment;

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[147] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2014/4.2/Rev.1, appendix II.

97. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

98. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling that in paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008 it urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

99. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

100. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with States, regional economic integration organizations, the International Maritime Organization and, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to expedite efforts to develop and manage a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, including with a unique vessel identifier system, using, as a first step, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme for fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnage and above, adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution A.1078 (28) of 4 December 2013;

101. *Welcomes* the continued development of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including its efforts to keep it cost-effective, and encourages States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide the necessary data to the Global Record;

102. *Also welcomes* the agreement that the International Maritime Organization ship identification number should be used as the unique vessel identifier for phase I of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels and the fact that several regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have made provisions for the International Maritime Organization number to be compulsory in their convention areas for all eligible vessels, and encourages those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to do the same;

103. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

104. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

105. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

106. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, to collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law and, in parallel, to encourage and support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in studying the current practices of trans-shipment and produce a set of guidelines for this purpose;

107. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

108. *Welcomes* the convening of the fifth Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop in Auckland, New Zealand, from 7 to 11 March 2016, hosted by the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, in order to share information, experiences and technologies, foster coordination and improve skills among enforcement officials;

109. *Encourages* States, individually and through relevant international bodies, to improve the understanding of the causes and impacts of forced labour and human trafficking in the fishing and aquaculture industries, including processing and related industries, and to further consider actions to combat these practices, including raising awareness of the issue;

VI

Fishing overcapacity

110. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

111. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop and implement a range of measures to adjust fishing intensity, including fishing capacity where relevant, to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, and including capacity assessment and capacity management plans providing incentives for voluntary reduction, which take into account all aspects that contribute to fishing capacity, considering, inter alia, engine power, fishing gear technology, fish detection technology and storage space, and also to improve transparency on fishing capacity, including by identifying, sharing and publicizing relevant information in this regard, subject to confidentiality requirements;

112. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

113. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

114. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to regulate highly migratory species, urgently to address global fishing capacity for tunas, inter alia, in a way that recognizes the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of the 2010 Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations International Workshop on RFMO Management of Tuna Fisheries, held in Brisbane, Australia, and the recommendations of the 2011 third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

115. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as ecosystem approaches and the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

116. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States reaffirmed their commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overcapacity, taking into account the importance of that sector to developing countries, reiterated their commitment to conclude multilateral disciplines on fisheries subsidies that would give effect to the mandates of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda[148] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation, taking into account the importance of the sector to development priorities, poverty reduction and livelihood and food security concerns, and encouraged one another to further improve the transparency and reporting of existing fisheries subsidies programmes through the World Trade Organization and, given the state of fisheries resources, and without prejudicing the Doha and Hong Kong ministerial mandates on fisheries subsidies or the need to conclude those negotiations, to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies or from extending or enhancing existing ones;

117. *Urges* States to eliminate fisheries subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, including through accelerating work to complete negotiations on fisheries subsidies at the World Trade Organization, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization negotiations on fisheries subsidies;

VII

Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

118. *Expresses concern* that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/215, the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to living marine resources;

119. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the provisions of resolution 46/215 and subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution 46/215 should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

120. *Also urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

VIII

Fisheries by-catch and discards

121. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to minimize by-catch, as well as to reduce or eliminate catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including of juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will minimize by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

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[148] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

122. *Encourages in this regard* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of the measures they have taken with regard to by-catch and discards;

123. *Welcomes* the commitment of States in "The future we want" to enhance action to manage by-catch, discards and other adverse ecosystem impacts from fisheries, including by eliminating destructive fishing practices, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

124. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, taking into account the best available scientific information on fishing methods, including fish aggregating devices, to minimize by-catch;

125. *Also calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and other devices, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental by-catch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles, and notes in this regard the measures adopted by different regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

126. *Notes in this regard* that some regional fisheries management organizations, including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, have established their own working groups to assess the use and impact of large-scale fish aggregating devices;

127. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to promote, as appropriate, the use of environmentally friendly fish aggregating devices while ensuring compliance with measures that they have taken relating to such devices;

128. *Urgently calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and, where appropriate, other relevant international organizations to develop and implement effective management measures to reduce the incidence of catch and discards of non-target species, including the utilization of selective fishing gear, where appropriate, and to take appropriate measures to minimize waste, and welcomes in this regard the support of the Committee on Fisheries for the development of a technical guideline of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations addressing the causes of and remedies to food losses and waste;

129. *Calls upon* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to adopt or improve measures to assess the impact of their fisheries on species caught as by-catch and to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of information and reporting on incidental catch of species caught as by-catch, including through adequate observer coverage and the use of modern technologies, such as electronic monitoring, and to provide assistance to developing States to meet data-collection and reporting obligations;

130. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to strengthen or establish data-collection programmes to obtain reliable species-specific estimates of shark, marine turtle, fin-fish, marine mammal and seabird by-catch, and to promote further research on selective fishing gear and practices and on the use of appropriate by-catch mitigation measures;

131. *Encourages* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to coordinate in the development and implementation of clear and standardized by-catch data-collection and reporting protocols for non-target species, in particular endangered, threatened and protected species, taking into account best-practice advice from appropriate international organizations and arrangements, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels;[149]

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[149] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2258, No. 40228.

132. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

133. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

134. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements urgently to implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

135. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[150]

136. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to take urgent action to reduce the by-catch of seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, in fisheries by adopting and implementing conservation measures consistent with the 2009 best practices technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and taking into account the work of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels and of organizations, such as the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

IX

Subregional and regional cooperation

137. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

138. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

139. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code, provided they have shown their interest in and capacity to comply with the measures adopted by the regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements concerned, including their willingness to effectively exercise flag State control, while recognizing the need to enhance the capacity of developing States in this regard;

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[150] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIRO/R957 (En), appendix E.

140. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

141. *Welcomes in this regard* the progress in the preparation of a draft convention on future multilateral cooperation in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden;

142. *Urges* signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[151] for fishery resources covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

143. *Encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;[152]

144. *Also encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean;[153]

145. *Further encourages* further ratifications, accessions, acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean;

146. *Welcomes* the adoption of conservation and management measures by the North Pacific Fisheries Commission in place of the interim voluntary measures referred to in paragraph 138 of resolution 70/75, and the conservation and management measures adopted under the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;

147. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, as amended, by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, held in Rome from 19 to 24 May 2014, and urges those Contracting Parties to the Commission that need to accept the amended Agreement to do so with a view to its early entry into force;

148. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

149. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

150. *Urges* the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries[154] that have not yet done so to approve the 2007 Amendment to that Convention with a view to its early entry into effect;

151. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, including the conservation and management of ecologically related and dependent species and protection of their habitats, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of living marine resources, and welcomes those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have taken steps in this direction;

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[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

[152] Ibid., vol. 2835, No. 49647.

[153] Ibid., vol. 2899, No. 50553.

[154] Ibid., vol. 1135, No. 17799.

152. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

153. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

154. *Urges* the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species to continue to take measures to implement the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to consider the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

155. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage straddling fish stocks to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

156. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage deep-sea fisheries to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

157. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent and facilitate the adoption of conservation and management measures in a timely and effective manner, including considering provisions for effective voting and objection procedures where appropriate, to rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, and address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

158. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, and encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority;

159. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

160. *Calls upon* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to undertake performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on a regular basis, and to make the results publicly available, to implement the recommendations of such reviews and to strengthen the comprehensiveness of those reviews over time, as necessary;

161. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the need for transparency and accountability in fisheries management by regional fisheries management organizations and the efforts already made by those regional fisheries management organizations that had undertaken independent performance reviews, called upon all regional fisheries management organizations to regularly undertake such reviews and make the results publicly available, encouraged implementation of the recommendations of such reviews and recommended that the comprehensiveness of those reviews be strengthened over time, as necessary;

162. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best-practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

163. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

164. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring transparency of reporting of fishing activities within regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to facilitate efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as the importance of respecting the reporting obligations within those organizations and arrangements, notes in this regard the measures adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas[155] and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission,[156] and encourages other regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider establishing similar measures;

X

Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

165. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to enhance their efforts to apply an ecosystem approach to fisheries, taking into account paragraph 30 (*d*) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

166. *Calls upon* flag States to effectively implement their duty under the Convention with respect to labour conditions, taking into account applicable international instruments and national laws, and in this regard encourages States to consider becoming parties to the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and implement the Guidelines for port State control officers carrying out inspections under the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188);

167. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

168. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

169. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research on the marine ecosystem in accordance with international law;

170. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socioeconomics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

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[155] International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, recommendation 11–16.

[156] Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, resolutions 12/07 and 13/07.

171. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to continue to implement the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Guidelines) in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from fishing practices with significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep-sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain as documented in the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment;

172. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in "The future we want", States committed to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts, including through the effective use of impact assessments, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

173. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the workshop convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, on the management of deep-sea fisheries and vulnerable marine ecosystems in the Mediterranean, held in Rome from 18 to 20 July 2016;

174. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 90 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 to 127 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121 to 136 of resolution 66/68 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the actions called for in those resolutions, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

175. *Urges* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep-sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 are consistent with the Guidelines;

176. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68 and the present resolution addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77 thereof;

177. *Notes in this regard* the adoption by coastal States of conservation measures regarding their continental shelf to address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as their efforts to ensure compliance with those measures;

178. *Reiterates* the importance of marine scientific research for the sustainable management of deep-sea fishery resources, including target fish stocks and non-target species, and to protect the marine ecosystem including, inter alia, the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

179. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, but notes with concern the uneven implementation of those provisions and that, in particular, bottom fishing continues to occur in certain areas beyond national jurisdiction without an impact assessment having been completed in the 10 years since the adoption of resolution 61/105, in which the General Assembly called for such assessments to be undertaken by 31 December 2008;

180. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to take, in particular, the following urgent actions regarding bottom fishing in areas beyond national jurisdiction:

(*a*) To use, as applicable, the full set of criteria in the Guidelines to identify where vulnerable marine ecosystems occur or are likely to occur as well as for assessing significant adverse impacts;

(*b*) To ensure that impact assessments, including for cumulative impacts of activities covered by the assessment, are conducted consistent with the Guidelines, particularly paragraph 47 thereof, are reviewed periodically and are revised thereafter whenever a substantial change in the fishery has occurred or there is relevant new information, and that, where such impact assessments have not been undertaken, they are carried out as a priority before authorizing bottom fishing activities;

(*c*) To ensure that conservation and management measures adopted by States and regional fisheries organizations and arrangements are based on and updated on the basis of the best available scientific information, noting in particular the need to improve effective implementation of thresholds and move-on rules;

181. *Recognizes* that different types of marine scientific research, such as, inter alia, seabed mapping, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems based on information from the fishing fleet, on-site camera observations from remote vehicles, benthic ecosystem modelling, comparative benthic studies and predictive modelling have resulted in identification of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known or are likely to occur and in the adoption of conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems, including the closure of areas to bottom fishing in accordance with paragraph 119 (*b*) of resolution 64/72;

182. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage bottom fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements, to consider the results available from different types of marine scientific research, including, as appropriate, those listed in paragraph 181 above, concerning the identification of areas containing vulnerable marine ecosystems, and to adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing on such ecosystems, consistent with the Guidelines, or to close such areas to bottom fishing until such conservation and management measures are adopted, as well as to continue to undertake further marine scientific research, for the above-mentioned purposes, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

183. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to carry out further marine scientific research to address the remaining knowledge gaps, in particular with regard to fish stock assessments, and to base and update conservation and management measures on the best available scientific information, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

184. *Notes with concern* that vulnerable marine ecosystems may also be impacted by human activities other than bottom fishing, and encourages in this regard States and competent international organizations to consider taking action to address such impacts;

185. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the potential impacts of climate change and ocean acidification in taking measures to manage deep-sea fisheries and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems;

186. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, to adopt conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, on the basis of the best available scientific information, including stock assessments, to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and non-target species and the rebuilding of depleted stocks, consistent with the Guidelines and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate, to ensure that conservation and management measures are established consistent with the precautionary approach, in particular with regard to vulnerable, threatened or endangered species;

187. *Recognizes*, in particular, the special circumstances and requirements of developing States and the specific challenges they may face in giving full effect to certain technical aspects of the Guidelines, and that implementation by such States of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of resolution 64/72, paragraph 129 of resolution 66/68 and paragraph 180 of the present resolution and the Guidelines should proceed in a manner that gives full consideration to section 6 of the Guidelines on the special requirements of developing countries;

188. *Recognizes* the need to enhance the capacity of developing States, including with regard to stock assessments, impact assessments, scientific and technical knowledge and training, and encourages States to provide technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

189. *Welcomes* the substantial ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, affirms the importance of the work undertaken pursuant to paragraphs 135 and 136 of resolution 66/68, and notes in particular the support provided by that Organization to States in implementing the Guidelines;

190. *Welcomes* the convening, pursuant to paragraph 170 of resolution 70/75, of the two-day workshop on 1 and 2 August 2016 to discuss implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68, and takes note of the summary of the discussions prepared by the moderator;[130]

191. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the report on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68, prepared pursuant to paragraph 164 of resolution 69/109;[157]

192. *Decides* to conduct in 2020 a further review of the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of the present resolution, with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the measures therein and to make further recommendations, where necessary, and decides to precede that review with a two-day workshop;

193. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives, establishment and management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard welcomes the development by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of technical guidelines on marine protected areas and fisheries, also encourages their application, and urges coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

194. *Urges* all States to implement the 1995 Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[158] and to accelerate activity to safeguard the marine ecosystem, including fish stocks, against pollution and physical degradation, taking into account the increase in oceanic dead zones;

195. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, and disseminate information in that regard, taking into account the best available scientific information, on fishing methods, gear types and uses to minimize mortality and other harms caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear;

196. *Acknowledges* the serious environmental, as well as economic and social, impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, and encourages States, and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to take action to reduce such gear, noting the recommendations of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

197. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 of 29 November 2005 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

198. *Welcomes in this regard* the ongoing work in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to further develop guidelines on the marking of fishing gear, through a technical consultation, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to conduct pilot projects to avoid ghost fishing by retrieving abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear and on the marking of fishing gear in developing countries in order to facilitate the implementation of those guidelines;

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[157] A/71/351.

[158] A/51/116, annex II.

199. *Encourages* further studies, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the impacts of underwater noise on fish stocks and fishing catch rates, as well as associated socioeconomic effects;

200. *Calls upon* States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to play an active role in global efforts to conserve and sustainably use living marine resources, so as to contribute to marine biological diversity;

201. *Encourages* States, either individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to identify any spawning and nursery areas for fish stocks under their jurisdiction or competence and, where required, to adopt science-based measures to conserve such stocks during these critical life stages;

202. *Expresses concern* about the recent massive influx of sargassum seaweed into the waters of the Caribbean and its impact on aquatic resources, fisheries, shorelines, waterways and tourism, and encourages States and relevant regional organizations to cooperate to better understand the causes and impacts of the influx, with a view to protecting the livelihoods of fishers and fishing communities and finding ways of beneficially utilizing the seaweed and environmentally friendly ways of disposing of sargassum washed up on shore;

203. *Recognizes* the wide range of impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems, and calls upon States to tackle the causes of ocean acidification and to further study its impacts;

204. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing adaptive marine resource management strategies and enhancing capacity-building to implement such strategies in order to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems to minimize the wide range of impacts on marine organisms and threats to food security caused by ocean acidification, in particular the impacts on the ability of calciferous plankton, coral reefs, shellfish and crustaceans to build shells and skeletal structures and the threats this could pose to protein supply;

XI

Capacity-building

205. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

206. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on, and assisting in the implementation of, the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable small-scale fisheries, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

207. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;

208. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries;

209. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability, in recognition of the fact that food security and livelihoods may depend on fisheries;

210. *Encourages* States to cooperate closely, directly or through the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with a view to enhancing capacity-building of developing States, including coastal States, in particular small island developing States, in the field of fisheries and aquaculture through education and training;

211. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the work of the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme in Iceland and its contribution to training for developing States, in particular small island developing States, and emphasizes the need for the continuation and strengthening of this training for developing States;

212. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

213. *Encourages* the parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing to convene an inception meeting, as well as to establish and convene the ad hoc working group under article 21 of that Agreement, to develop a framework for capacity-development assistance;

214. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis and to take into account their legitimate expectation to fully benefit from the sustainable use of the natural resources of their exclusive economic zones, to ensure that vessels flying their flag comply with the laws and regulations of the developing coastal States adopted in accordance with international law and to give greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources and also to the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

215. *Encourages*, in this regard, greater transparency regarding fisheries access agreements, including by making them publicly available, subject to confidentiality requirements;

216. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

217. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratifications of or accessions to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

218. *Notes with appreciation* the compilation, prepared by the Secretariat and available on the website of the Division, of the needs of developing States for capacity-building and assistance in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the sources of available assistance for developing States to address such needs;

219. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of

resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68, and paragraphs 156, 171, 175 and 177 to 188 of the present resolution;

220. *Urges* States and regional economic integration organizations, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to mainstream efforts to assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, with other relevant international development strategies with a view to enhancing international coordination to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, consistent with the duty to ensure the conservation and management of those resources, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates;

221. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations to develop strategies to further assist developing States, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, in fully realizing the benefits from the catch of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and in strengthening regional efforts to sustainably conserve and manage such stocks, and, in this regard, to make available such information;

XII

Cooperation within the United Nations system

222. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

223. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action and to report to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in his annual report on sustainable fisheries, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

XIII

Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

224. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

225. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him by the Convention, the Agreement and the related resolutions of the General Assembly and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XIV

Seventy-second session of the General Assembly

226. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations;

227. *Notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and the effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the informal consultations on this resolution will be held in a single round of consultations in November for a period of six days, requests the Secretary-General to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit proposals for inclusion in the text of the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than five weeks before the start of the consultations;

228. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December

1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", and to consider the possibility of including this sub-item in future provisional agendas on a biennial basis.

RESOLUTION 71/124

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.27 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam

71/124. World Tuna Day

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Noting that at present more than 80 States have tuna fisheries, thousands of tuna fishing vessels operate in all the oceans and tuna fishery capacity is still growing in the Indian and Pacific Oceans,

Noting also that many countries depend heavily on tuna resources for food security and nutrition, economic development, employment, government revenue, livelihoods, culture and recreation,

Recognizing the importance of sustainably managed stocks in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[159] and noting the integrated and indivisible nature of the Agenda,

1. *Decides* to designate 2 May as World Tuna Day;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to observe World Tuna Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise awareness of the value of tuna, the threats facing tuna populations and the economic and social benefits of sustainably managed tuna stocks, and to share best practices in this regard;

3. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

RESOLUTION 71/125

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 8 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

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[159] Resolution 70/1.

71/125. Persistent legacy of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 68/99 of 13 December 2013 on the strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as its other relevant resolutions, on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Acknowledging the importance of the efforts made by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Acknowledging also the organization of the international conference entitled "Chernobyl 30 years later: from an emergency to a revival and sustainable social and economic development of affected territories", held in Minsk on 25 April 2016, and taking note of the adoption of the Minsk Declaration,[160]

Recognizing, three decades after the Chernobyl disaster, the still-persistent serious long-term consequences thereof, as well as the continuing related needs of the affected communities and territories,

Noting the completion of the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, 2006–2016,[161]

Recalling its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Welcoming global efforts to enhance awareness of the needs of people and territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster, including through web-based resources,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on optimizing the international effort to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;[162]

2. *Greatly appreciates* the coordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme in the international cooperation on Chernobyl, including the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl;

3. *Acknowledges* the need for continuing international cooperation on Chernobyl under the auspices of the United Nations that can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[163] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[164]

4. *Stresses* the need, in this regard, to continue the environmental and health monitoring of the Chernobyl-affected regions and communities for the purpose of assessing the efficiency of international assistance;

5. *Encourages* Member States and all interested partners to support international cooperation on Chernobyl aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Chernobyl-affected regions, including through partnerships, innovation and investment;

6. *Acknowledges* the need to enhance networking around specialized national scientific institutions to study long-term medical, radioecological, radiobiological and other consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

7. *Recognizes* the role of regional centres, as referred to in the Minsk Declaration,[160] in raising awareness among the population of the Chernobyl-affected regions on the issues of personal and social safety to ensure better adaptation with respect to the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

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[160] A/70/916, annex.

[161] See resolution 62/9.

[162] A/71/411.

[163] Resolution 70/1.

[164] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

8. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue to coordinate international cooperation on Chernobyl as a means to further the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to continue to develop, in collaboration with the affected countries and in consultation with Member States, a concise outline of general principles of engagement of the United Nations system in Chernobyl recovery efforts, along with agency-specific priorities, following the completion of the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, 2006–2016;

9. *Decides*, in order to raise awareness of the long-term consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, to designate 26 April as International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day, to be observed every year beginning in 2017, invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to observe the day, and notes that the costs of all activities that may arise should be met from voluntary contributions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, under a separate sub-item, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/126

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 8 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

71/126. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/108 of 10 December 2015, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[165] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[166] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[166] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[167] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[168]

Gravely concerned at the difficult living conditions and humanitarian situation affecting the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip where economic recovery and vast infrastructure repair, rehabilitation and development are urgently needed, especially in the aftermath of the conflict of July and August 2014,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Welcoming, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

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[165] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[166] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[167] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[168] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region, the promotion of which is facilitated, inter alia, in a stable and secure environment,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities, and recalling in this regard the National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza,

Expressing grave concern about the grave humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and the need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Underlining the importance of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process,

Recalling the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conferences, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008 and on 2 and 3 June 2010, and the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009,

Welcoming the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development, convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and in Jakarta in March 2014, as a forum to mobilize political and economic assistance, including through exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development,

Welcoming also the latest meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Brussels on 27 May 2015 and in New York on 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 30 September 2015 and 19 September 2016,

Welcoming further the activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011–2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure and the adoption of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2014–2016: State-building to Sovereignty, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Palestinian State-building process, as outlined in the summary by the Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held on 22 September 2014,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

Recognizing, in this regard, the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing developmental support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities, *Welcoming* steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote further Palestinian economic development,

Welcoming also the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations regarding access to the Gaza Strip, and calling for its full implementation and complementary measures that address the need for a fundamental change in policy that allows for the sustained and regular opening of the border crossings for the movement of persons and goods, including for humanitarian and commercial flows and for the reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza,

Stressing that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Stressing also the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009, including by preventing the illicit trafficking in arms and ammunition and by ensuring the sustained reopening of the crossing points on the basis of existing agreements, including the 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access between the Palestinian Authority and Israel,

Stressing, in this regard, the importance of the effective exercise by the Palestinian Authority of its full government responsibilities in the Gaza Strip in all fields, including through its presence at the Gaza crossing points,

Noting the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Reaffirming the necessity of achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008 and 1860 (2009), as well as the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the principle of land for peace, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States – Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous, sovereign and viable Palestinian State – living side by side in peace and security and mutual recognition,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[169]

Expressing grave concern about continuing violence against civilians,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[169]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and ongoing efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people, including with regard to the emergency humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes* the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians of 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 27 May and 30 September 2015 and

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[169] A/71/87-E/2016/67.

19 September 2016, the outcome of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and the generous donor response to support the needs of the Palestinian people, and urges the rapid disbursement of donor pledges;

7. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza to effectively promote economic recovery and reconstruction in a timely and sustainable manner;

8. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

9. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction and development of relevant Palestinian institutions;

12. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socioeconomic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

13. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

14. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

15. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

16. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of existing agreements, including the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

17. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

18. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

19. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[170] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

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[170] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 71/127

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 8 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.32 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

71/127. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[171] and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,[172]

Reaffirming the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming also the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

Expressing grave concern at the increasing challenges caused by the unprecedented number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including protracted displacement, which are increasing in number, scale and severity and are stretching humanitarian response capacities, and expressing deep concern about the impact of climate change, the ongoing consequences of the financial and economic crisis, regional food crises, continuing food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, unplanned and rapid urbanization of populations, epidemics, natural hazards and environmental degradation, which are adding to underdevelopment, poverty and inequality and are increasing the vulnerability of people while reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises,

Underscoring the need, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, to better align, wherever appropriate, humanitarian and development assistance with national development priorities and strategies, and encouraging Member States, as well as the United Nations system and regional organizations in supporting the efforts of Member States, to tackle the root causes of humanitarian crises, including poverty and underdevelopment, build the resilience of affected States, including host communities, and reduce humanitarian needs,

Recognizing that a cooperative framework between humanitarian and development approaches is imperative to build resilience,

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[171] A/71/82-E/2016/60.

[172] A/71/336.

Concerned about the growing gap between the increasing numbers of people in need of assistance and sufficient resources to provide relief, noting the appointment by the Secretary-General, in May 2015, of a High-level Panel on Humanitarian Financing to examine ways to raise more humanitarian funding, to make the funding more predictable and to use available funding more effectively, and taking note of the report of the Panel,

Concerned also about the growing gap between humanitarian needs and resources, welcoming non-traditional donors, and emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance, based on and in proportion to assessed risks and needs, with a view to planning for, mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from humanitarian emergencies and to ensuring fuller coverage of the needs in all sectors and across humanitarian emergencies,

Recognizing, in this regard, the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to increase the level of the Fund to 1 billion United States dollars by 2018,

Emphasizing that strengthened needs analysis, risk management and strategic planning, in coordination with affected States, including through the use of open and disaggregated data, are crucial elements to ensure a better informed, more effective, transparent and collective response to the needs of people affected by crises,

Reiterating the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance and integrate a gender perspective into all disaster risk reduction efforts, including by addressing the specific needs, and promoting the priorities and capacities, of women, girls, boys and men in a comprehensive and consistent manner, recognizing that in humanitarian emergencies, women, girls and boys face heightened risks to their safety, health and well-being, and also reiterating that it is essential to ensure that women are empowered to effectively and meaningfully participate in leadership and decision-making processes, wherever possible, and that the rights of women, girls and boys are respected and protected in such emergencies,

Reiterating also the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to improve accountability at all levels to the needs of affected populations, and recognizing the importance of inclusive participation in decision-making,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple barriers in accessing assistance, and in this regard recalling the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action,

Expressing its deep concern about the increasing challenges faced by Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response system and their capacities as a result of the consequences of disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, and reaffirming the need for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[173] inter alia, by providing adequate resources for disaster risk reduction, including investment, as well as risk financing, at all levels in disaster preparedness and capacity-building, and through disaster-informed policies, programmes and investments and other proactive measures that aim towards preventing new and reducing existing risk in order to reduce humanitarian needs,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[174] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[175] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[173] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[174] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[175] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recognizing the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, including those that become humanitarian crises, highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority of international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

Recognizing also that developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, remain acutely vulnerable to human and economic loss resulting from natural hazards, and recognizing further the need for strengthening international cooperation, as appropriate, to strengthen their resilience in this regard,

Recognizing further that inclusive economic growth and sustainable development are essential for the prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies,

Recognizing, in this respect, that building national and local preparedness and response capacity through, inter alia, appropriate, inclusive and conducive public policies and international assistance, is critical to a more predictable and effective response and contributes to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including enhanced resilience and a reduced need for humanitarian response,

Emphasizing that enhancing international cooperation on emergency humanitarian assistance is essential, and reaffirming its resolution 70/107 of 10 December 2015 on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development,

Emphasizing also the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles,

Recognizing the high number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including the unprecedented number of people who are forcibly displaced, of whom a majority are women and children, owing to conflict, acts of terrorism, persecution, violence and other reasons, and who are often displaced for protracted periods, wherein the national authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance and promote durable solutions for internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, bearing in mind their particular needs,

Noting the need for increased awareness of the international community regarding the issue of internal displacement worldwide, including the situation of the millions living in protracted situations of displacement, and the urgency of providing adequate humanitarian assistance to and protection for internally displaced persons, supporting host communities, addressing the root causes of displacement, finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons in their countries and addressing possible obstacles in this regard, and recognizing that durable solutions include voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as voluntary local integration in the areas to which persons have been displaced or voluntary settlement in another part of the country, without prejudice to the right of internally displaced persons to leave their country or to seek asylum,

Reaffirming the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held on 19 September 2016,[176]

Expressing concern about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizing that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizing the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions,

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[176] Resolution 71/1.

Recognizing the importance of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[177] which provides a vital legal framework for the protection of civilian persons in time of war, including the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Strongly condemning all acts of violence, including direct attacks, against humanitarian personnel and facilities, as well as against medical personnel and other humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which in a majority of cases affect locally recruited personnel, noting with concern the negative implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, and welcoming efforts such as the Health Care in Danger project of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, together with States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

Recalling the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required,

Noting with grave concern that violence, including gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations during and after humanitarian situations,

Noting with appreciation the efforts that Member States, the United Nations and other relevant actors continue to make to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response based on needs, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, improving humanitarian coordination, identifying and integrating appropriate innovation into humanitarian preparedness, response and recovery, increasing transparency, reducing duplication, strengthening partnerships with local and national responders as appropriate, enhancing flexible, predictable and adequate funding and strengthening the accountability of all stakeholders,

Noting with grave concern that children and youth continue to lack education in situations of complex emergencies, and emphasizing the urgent need for increased financing and more efficient delivery of quality education in humanitarian emergencies, as a contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goal on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, and to provide quality education for all, in particular children, in humanitarian emergencies,

Recognizing that, in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, the organizations of the United Nations system should continue to consult and work in close coordination with national Governments,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions,

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[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the nineteenth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2016;[178]

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system, including through the transformative agenda of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with all Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

4. *Encourages* Member States and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to improve dialogue and collaboration on humanitarian issues, at the global and field levels, including on policy, in order to foster a more consultative and inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance;

5. *Welcomes* the continued efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in order to effectively cooperate to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence;

6. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, how innovation can be more proactively and systematically identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner and to promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and approaches, including those from large-scale natural disasters and humanitarian crises of a protracted nature, that could improve the effectiveness and quality of humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages all relevant stakeholders to continue to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through facilitating access to information and communications technologies;

7. *Welcomes* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by humanitarian emergencies to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to natural and man-made disasters and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the provision and coordination of humanitarian assistance at the global, regional and field levels, including through existing cluster coordination mechanisms and in support of national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing efficiency, transparency, performance and accountability;

9. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations, other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other relevant stakeholders;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, and enhancing their performance accountability;

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[178] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/71/3), chap. IX.

11. *Calls upon* the Chair of the United Nations Development Group and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to enhance their consultations before presenting final recommendations on the selection process for resident coordinators in countries likely to require significant humanitarian response operations;

12. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Development Group to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, ensuring, inter alia, full implementation of the management and accountability system of the Group and the resident coordinator system;

13. *Recognizes* that diversity of humanitarian staff brings value to humanitarian work and understanding of developing countries' contexts, and requests the Secretary-General to address further the insufficient diversity in geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the humanitarian staff of the Secretariat and other United Nations humanitarian agencies, in particular regarding professional and high-level staff, and to report on measures taken in this regard in his annual report;

14. *Also recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need for enhancing the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

15. *Urges* Member States to continue to give priority to efforts to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to improve coordination and strengthen capacity, to ensure that humanitarian relief is provided in a way that mitigates the risk of gender-based violence, and to strengthen support services for victims, survivors and others affected by such violence beginning in the earliest stages of emergency response, taking into account their unique and specific needs resulting from the impact of such violence, and urges all relevant stakeholders to engage for more effective humanitarian relief;

16. *Underscores* the critical importance of protecting all persons affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and children, from any form of sexual abuse or sexual exploitation, and welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to fully implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse;

17. *Urges* Member States to continue to seek to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute violations and abuses against children in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for children affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those who have experienced violations and abuses, and calls for a more effective response in that regard;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[173] to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and relevant humanitarian and development organizations to continue to support multi-year investment, when possible, in preparedness, response and coordination capacities, and build the capacity at all levels of government, including local government, of organizations and of communities, particularly in communities exposed to disasters, to better prepare for hazards, reduce disaster risk, build resilience and better respond to and recover from and build back better after disasters, and also calls upon all relevant stakeholders to complement, rather than substitute for or displace, national capacities to respond to crises, especially where those crises are prolonged or recurrent;

20. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors to reinforce preparedness and response capabilities in relation to those outbreaks of infectious disease that trigger a humanitarian crisis, and calls upon the United Nations humanitarian system and humanitarian organizations to respond rapidly, in coordination with affected States, to humanitarian crises triggered by outbreaks of infectious disease, including outbreaks occurring in humanitarian settings;

21. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to provide adequate, sustainable and timely resources for disaster risk reduction in order to build resilience, including through complementary humanitarian and development programming and by further strengthening national and local capacities to prevent, prepare for and respond to humanitarian emergencies, and furthermore encourages closer cooperation between national stakeholders and humanitarian and development actors in this regard;

22. *Encourages* closer cooperation between development and humanitarian actors, in coordination with Member States, to ensure that all relevant actors work together, in accordance with their mandates, towards common results with the aim of reducing need, vulnerability and risk over multiple years, based on shared understanding of the context and each actor's operational strengths, in support of national priorities, while fully respecting the importance of humanitarian principles for humanitarian action;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations system, humanitarian organizations and development organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream preparedness, early action and early recovery into their programming, acknowledges that preparedness, early action and early recovery should receive further funding, and in this regard encourages the provision of timely, flexible, predictable and adequate resources, including from both humanitarian and development budgets, as appropriate;

24. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security and nutrition;

25. *Expresses concern* about the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of fuel, firewood, alternative energy, water and sanitation, shelter and food and health-care services, including psychosocial services, in humanitarian emergencies, and notes with appreciation initiatives at the national and international levels, including those that more systematically identify and integrate innovative approaches and share best practices, that promote effective cooperation in this regard;

26. *Encourages* the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems, especially early warning systems, for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability and natural hazards;

27. *Welcomes* the growing number of Member States and regional organizations that have taken steps to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages others to do so, as appropriate, and welcomes the valuable support that national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are providing to their Governments in this area, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other partners;

28. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and of national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing timely, effective and predictable humanitarian assistance, and encourages the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide support to such efforts, including, as appropriate, under the Common Framework for Preparedness of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Development Group and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries and through support to programmes aimed at enhancing the coordination capacities of affected States;

29. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain instances may contribute to displacement and additional pressure on host communities, encourages the United Nations and all relevant actors to strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced within the context of disasters, including those induced by climate change, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices to prevent and prepare for such displacements;

30. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, where appropriate, including through multi-year funding and prioritizing humanitarian tools that strengthen resilience, such as, but not limited to, cash-based transfers, local procurement of food and services, including for school feeding programmes, and social safety nets;

31. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies more effectively to respond to needs in humanitarian contexts by, inter alia, scaling up social protection policies and cash-based transfer mechanisms, where feasible, including multipurpose cash programming, as appropriate, to support the development of local markets and strengthen national and local capacities, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations humanitarian organizations to continue building their capacity to systematically consider cash-based transfer programming, alongside other forms of humanitarian assistance;

32. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to examine their own financing mechanisms in order to improve, where possible, fast and flexible financing for preparedness, response and early recovery;

33. *Takes note* of the efforts of Member States, the United Nations system and the international community to strengthen preparedness and local, national and regional humanitarian response capacity, calls upon the United Nations and relevant partners to support capacity-building of Member States, and calls upon Member States to continue to provide funding to humanitarian country-based pooled funds;

34. *Encourages* Member States, and calls upon relevant humanitarian organizations, to work closely with national institutions, including local governments and the private sector, as appropriate, to examine effective, context-specific ways to be better prepared for, respond to and recover from increasing emergencies in urban areas, which may have an impact on the provision of such life-saving essential services as water, energy and health care;

35. *Welcomes* the adoption of the New Urban Agenda by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[179] and takes note of the commitments undertaken therein by Member States regarding persons affected by humanitarian crises in urban areas;

36. *Reaffirms* the right to education for all and the importance of ensuring safe enabling learning environments in humanitarian emergencies, as well as quality education at all levels, including for girls, including technical and vocational training opportunities, where possible, including through adequate funding and infrastructural investments, for the well-being of all, and in this regard reiterates the need to protect and respect educational facilities in accordance with international humanitarian law and strongly condemns all attacks directed against schools in contravention of international humanitarian law;

37. *Calls upon* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other United Nations organizations to continue to work with Member States and relevant United Nations entities to facilitate the exchange of updated, accurate and reliable information, including through mutually comprehensible harmonized data, to ensure better assessment of needs in order to improve preparedness and humanitarian response;

38. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvement of the humanitarian programme cycle, in particular the development of prioritized humanitarian response plans based on needs, in consultation with the affected States, in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian action to meet the needs of people affected by humanitarian emergencies;

39. *Encourages* Member States to commit and to disburse in a timely fashion humanitarian funding based on, and in accordance with, the humanitarian appeals brought forward by the United Nations;

40. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to explore innovative risk-sharing mechanisms and to base risk management funding on objective data;

41. *Requests* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all stages of humanitarian response, to take measures to ensure the full participation of women, girls, men and boys, including persons with disabilities and older persons, in all stages of decision-making, as appropriate, in order to, inter alia, reduce gender inequalities and ensure that humanitarian assistance is informed, adapted, appropriate and effective, and to take into account the specific needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, girls, men and boys on an equal basis, taking into consideration age and disability, in the design of needs assessments and the implementation of all

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[179] Resolution 71/256, annex.

programming, including by seeking to ensure the provision of access to the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and in this regard encourages efforts to ensure gender mainstreaming, including in the collection and analysis of disaggregated data, in the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the gender marker;

42. *Recognizes* the important role that women can play as first responders, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian organizations to support women's leadership and participation in the planning and implementation of response strategies, including by strengthening partnerships and building the capacities of national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations, and other civil society actors, as appropriate;

43. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to ensure non-discrimination and opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in humanitarian preparedness and response;

44. *Calls upon* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in coordination with Member States, to engage all people affected by crises, in particular those most at risk, including through communication, enabling their participation in relevant processes and supporting their efforts and capacities to meet their different needs, while taking into account, as appropriate, their culture, traditions and local customs;

45. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms and methodologies for improving the quality, transparency, reliability, compatibility and comparability of common humanitarian needs assessments, needs data and analysis, including through improved collection, analysis and reporting of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and taking into account environmental impact, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by those organizations;

46. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, including local governments, relevant local organizations and other actors, as well as affected populations, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately assessed and effectively addressed;

47. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to identify better ways of working to address the increasing capacity and resource gap, in order to effectively meet the needs of affected populations, including by harmonizing and, where possible, simplifying reporting requirements, increasing the flexibility of humanitarian funding, including through reduced earmarking and further minimizing the duplication of costs, and making more use of innovation in humanitarian response;

48. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources based on and in proportion to assessed needs, including for underfunded and forgotten emergencies, to consider providing early and multi-year commitments to pooled humanitarian funds, including the Central Emergency Response Fund and country-based pooled funds, and to continue to support diverse humanitarian funding channels, encourages efforts to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship[180] and to improve burden-sharing among donors, and in this respect encourages the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make relevant contributions, complementary to those of other sources;

49. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to

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[180] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

50. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund in order to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars by 2018 and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund and that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

51. *Calls upon* Member States that are in a position to do so and development and humanitarian partners, in their efforts to provide flexible resources, to consider ways of better mainstreaming the need for preparedness and building resilience in the provision of humanitarian and development assistance, including reconstruction and rehabilitation, inter alia, with a view to ensuring smooth transition from relief to development;

52. *Encourages* humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common risk-management and resilience objectives, achievable through joint analysis, planning, programming and funding;

53. *Calls upon* all Member States that are in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions to humanitarian emergencies, including through flexible, unearmarked and multi-year funding where possible, in this context reiterates that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, and underscores the importance of adequate voluntary funding for the Office to enable it to carry out its mandate;

54. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including clean water, food, shelter, health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and protection, energy and information and communications technologies, where possible, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

55. *Also encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure reliable and safe access to sexual and reproductive health-care services in order to protect women, adolescent girls and infants from preventable mortality and morbidity;

56. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to understand and address the different protection needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable, in humanitarian crises and ensure that these needs are adequately integrated into preparedness, response and recovery efforts;

57. *Recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems as a tool of protection and as a means of carrying out the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance, notes the many and diverse challenges faced by refugees who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, and underlines the importance of increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries;

58. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law, encourages States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to enhance the protection of civilians, and invites all States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

59. *Also reaffirms* the obligations of all States and parties to an armed conflict, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law, to respect and protect humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required;

60. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts and to comply with the relevant obligations

under international law to end impunity and to ensure that those responsible are promptly brought to justice, in accordance with national law and their obligations under international law;

61. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel, as well as the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

62. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[181] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and that forced displacement is not only a humanitarian but also a development challenge, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons and in particular to address the long-term nature of displacement by adopting and implementing long-term strategies and coherent multi-year planning, including in relation to issues such as livelihoods, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States and encourages humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, including with development organizations, to better address the needs of internally displaced persons in support of Member States to promote durable solutions;

63. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, and supports the approach taken by the Secretary-General to focus the efforts of the security management system on enabling the United Nations system to "stay and deliver" its most critical programmes even in high-risk environments by effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed, including in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and to adapt quickly to changes in local security conditions;

64. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include, as part of their risk management strategy, the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

65. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on actions taken to enable the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy staff quickly, effectively and flexibly, to procure emergency relief materials and services rapidly, cost-effectively and locally, where applicable, and to quickly disburse funds in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination of international humanitarian assistance;

66. *Takes note* of the first World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and also takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit;[182]

67. *Urges* all countries to integrate into their respective national policies and development frameworks the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[183] which includes a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and urges Member States, the United Nations and relevant stakeholders to work together to reduce the needs and build the resilience of the most vulnerable in order to contribute to the achievement of the Goals included in the 2030 Agenda, including the call to leave no one behind;

68. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, through the Economic and Social Council at its 2017 session, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and to submit a report to the Assembly on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

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[181] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[182] A/71/353.

[183] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 71/128

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 8 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United States of America

71/128. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration[184] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[185] adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,

Recognizing that the Sendai Framework applies to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

Noting with concern that slow-onset disasters such as droughts are on the rise in many places and can have significant impacts on affected populations and lead to increased vulnerability to other hazards,

Recognizing the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as the main forum at the global level for strategic advice coordination and partnership development for disaster risk reduction,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[186] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[187] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting with appreciation the hosting by the Government of Morocco of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016,

Emphasizing the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles, and emphasizing also in this regard the need for Member States to coordinate with all relevant actors early on in a disaster response so as to ensure the predictable, coherent and needs-based deployment of military assets and personnel supporting humanitarian assistance,

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[184] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[185] Ibid., annex II.

[186] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[187] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Emphasizing also that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing further the primary responsibility of each State to undertake disaster risk reduction and management, including through the voluntary implementation of and follow-up to the Sendai Framework, as well as response and early recovery efforts, in order to minimize the impact of disasters, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

Noting the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, including those that become humanitarian crises, highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters, given the effects of global challenges, including the impact of climate change, the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis and volatile food prices on food security and nutrition, and other key factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of populations and exposure to natural hazards and the impact of natural disasters,

Expressing its deep concern also that rural and urban poor communities in the developing world are the hardest hit by the effects of increased disaster risk,

Noting with concern that persons with disabilities, older persons, women and children are disproportionately affected in natural disasters,

Acknowledging the impacts of rapid urbanization in the context of natural disasters and that urban disaster preparedness and responses require appropriate disaster risk reduction strategies, including in urban planning, and early recovery strategies implemented from the initial stage of relief operations, as well as mitigation, rehabilitation and sustainable development strategies, and that action by humanitarian and development actors in urban areas needs to recognize the complexity of cities and build urban resilience, with improved urban expertise and capacities within organizations, while building on the capabilities, opportunities and potential new partnerships present in cities and other human settlements,

Welcoming the adoption of the outcome document entitled "New Urban Agenda" at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[188] and in this regard noting the importance of implementing policies to ensure more effective disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management,

Noting that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, as well as response and recovery, and acknowledging the need to support efforts of Member States to develop and enhance national and local capacities which are fundamental to improving the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance,

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[188] Resolution 71/256.

Stressing the need for all relevant actors involved in international responses to natural disasters to ensure that such responses are tailored to context, make use of appropriate tools and support local systems, including by building on local expertise and capacities,

Recognizing the adverse effects of climate change as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, which may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility,

Recognizing also the high numbers of persons affected by natural disasters, including in this respect displaced persons,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

Recognizing that scientific advancements can contribute to the effective forecasting of extreme weather events, which allows for a more accurate prediction of such events,

Recognizing also the progress made by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in its mission,

Noting the progress of the Global Framework for Climate Services in developing and providing science-based climate information and prediction for climate risk management and for adaptation to climate variability and change, and looking forward to continued implementation,

Welcoming the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

Recognizing also the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars by 2018,

Emphasizing the need to address vulnerability and to integrate disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning through close collaboration of all relevant actors and sectors,

Reaffirming that strengthening resilience contributes to withstanding, adapting to and quickly recovering from disasters,

Reaffirming also the importance of considering increasing investment in building the resilience of communities, which can be the first line of response,

Recognizing the changing scope, scale and complexity of humanitarian crises, including natural disasters, and their adverse impact on efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals,[189] and noting the positive contribution that these efforts can make in strengthening the resilience of populations to such disasters,

Recognizing also the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of short-term and medium-term recovery, leading to long-term development, and that certain emergency measures should be seen as a step towards sustainable development,

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[189] See resolution 70/1.

Emphasizing, in this context, the important role of development organizations and other relevant stakeholders in supporting national efforts to mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[190]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing impact of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide and, in some instances, displacement, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[185] to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to increase its support for Member States in their prioritized implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through the revised United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience, to ensure that the implementation of the Sendai Framework most effectively contributes to a risk-informed and integrated approach to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[189] in particular through building resilience against disasters and supporting national and local preparedness and response capacities;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to promote and strengthen disaster risk reduction and preparedness activities at all levels, in particular in hazard-prone areas, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to increase funding and cooperation for disaster risk reduction activities, including disaster preparedness;

6. *Encourages* Member States, in line with the call in the Sendai Framework, to promote disaster preparedness, response and recovery with a view to ensuring a rapid and effective response to disasters and to promoting international cooperation to build resilience and reduce disaster risk;

7. *Also encourages* Member States to provide dedicated financial contributions to disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery efforts in a harmonized, flexible and complementary approach that fully utilizes and helps to coordinate humanitarian and development funding options and potential;

8. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, as well as to incorporate a gender perspective into policies, planning and funding, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;

9. *Acknowledges* that climate change, among other factors, contributes to environmental degradation and to the increase in the intensity and frequency of climate and extreme weather events, both of which amplify disaster risk, and in this regard encourages Member States, as well as relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including through the provision of technology and support for capacity-building in developing countries;

10. *Urges* the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen the capacity and resilience of Member States, including through the application of new science and technology and through investments in the context of disasters and climate change;

11. *Encourages* Member States to address the humanitarian and development needs arising from natural disaster-induced displacement, including through national policies and resilience-building, and in this regard encourages Member States, supported by the United Nations, to develop national laws and policies on internal

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[190] A/71/329.

displacement, as appropriate, which address such displacement, detail responsibilities and measures to minimize the impact of disasters, protect and assist internally displaced persons following disasters and identify, promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions, and in this respect encourages Member States to adopt standards, as appropriate, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[191] the Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee[192] and the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement;[193]

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to integrate the building of resilience and human mobility into relevant strategies, plans and legal frameworks, in particular regarding disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, as integral elements of sustainable development at the national and regional levels so as to help to prevent and mitigate displacement in the context of disasters and the effects of climate change, including in urban settings where displaced persons have particular needs, requirements and vulnerabilities, and to enhance cooperation and coordination, where appropriate, to comprehensively respond to such displacement, including by preventing, preparing for and addressing it;

13. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to enhance understanding, analysis, monitoring and assessment of the dynamics and effects of displacement in the context of slow-onset disasters, gradual environmental degradation and climate change, and to strengthen the impartial and timely collection of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and policy and operational responses in this regard;

14. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief and to adopt and implement national laws and regulations, as appropriate, to reduce the impact of the underlying drivers of disaster risk and vulnerability, and to adopt comprehensive rules and procedures for the facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance, drawing, as appropriate, on the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, and calls upon the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant United Nations organizations and other partners for technical support in achieving these aims;

15. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, municipalities, civil society and the private sector, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

16. *Reiterates* the commitment to support, as a matter of priority, the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to reduce risks, prepare for and respond rapidly to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

17. *Also reiterates* the need to build the capacities of governments to manage and respond to disaster and climate risks, including by providing support for and strengthening national and, as appropriate, local preparedness and response capacities, and to build resilience, taking into account the differing needs of women, girls, boys and men of all ages;

18. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen early warning systems, disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Sendai Framework, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

19. *Also urges* Member States to improve their response to early warning information in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States in this regard;

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[191] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[192] A/HRC/13/21/Add.4.

[193] A/HRC/4/18, annex I.

20. *Encourages* Member States to develop or enhance forecast-based preparedness systems and the coordination of existing networks, ensure that comprehensive procedures are in place and make resources available for actions in anticipation of natural disasters;

21. *Also encourages* Member States to consider elaborating and presenting to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat their national platforms for disaster risk reduction in accordance with the Sendai Framework, and encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of applying a multi-hazard approach to preparedness, and encourages Member States, taking into account their specific circumstances, and the United Nations system to continue to apply the approach to their preparedness activities, including by giving due regard to, inter alia, secondary environmental hazards stemming from industrial and technological accidents;

23. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

24. *Encourages* Member States and regional organizations to work together to strengthen regional cooperation to improve national and regional capacity to understand and reduce risks and prepare for and respond to disasters in support of national efforts, including by exchanging experiences and best practices;

25. *Encourages* Member States to move from reactive to more proactive risk-based, all-hazards and all-of-society approaches, such as the promotion of ex ante investments to prevent disaster risks and build resilience, the promotion of environmental and spatial measures and the integration of lessons from past disasters, as well as awareness of new risks, into future planning;

26. *Encourages* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by natural disasters to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce lifesaving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

27. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

28. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, to take appropriate measures to reduce and discourage the sending of unsolicited, unneeded or inappropriate relief goods in response to disasters;

29. *Encourages* all Member States to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of emergency humanitarian assistance and development assistance and the entry of humanitarian personnel and supplies, provided in the context of international efforts, including in the phase from relief to development, in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182 and the annex thereto, and in full respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law;

30. *Encourages* Member States to put in place, as appropriate, customs measures to improve effectiveness in responding to natural disasters;

31. *Reaffirms* the leading role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

32. *Welcomes* the important contribution of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system to the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance in supporting Member States, upon their request, and the United Nations system in preparedness and humanitarian response, and encourages the continued incorporation into this mechanism of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters;

33. *Also welcomes* the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, and encourages Member States to continue to support the Advisory Group, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002;

34. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to consider the specific and differentiated consequences of natural disasters in both rural and urban areas when designing and implementing disaster risk reduction, prevention and mitigation, preparedness, humanitarian assistance and early recovery strategies, giving special emphasis to addressing the needs of those living in rural and urban poor areas prone to natural disasters;

35. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations, traditional and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in situations of natural disasters, in order to cooperate effectively in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;

36. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunications technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunications capacities, encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations[194] to consider doing so;

37. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, including as provided by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the forecasting, prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate, and invites Member States to continue to provide their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite-derived geographical information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery;

38. *Encourages* Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out its workplan for 2016–2017, and reiterates the importance of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and by facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries;

39. *Recognizes* the opportunities for new technologies, when utilized in a coordinated fashion and based on humanitarian principles, potentially to improve the effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian response, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to consider engaging, inter alia, with the volunteer and technical communities, as appropriate, in order to make use of the variety of data and information available during emergencies and disaster risk efforts;

40. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

41. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to support national initiatives that address the differentiated impacts of natural disasters on the affected population, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, using, inter alia, the existing information provided by States, and through the development of tools, methods and procedures that will result in more timely and useful initial needs assessments that lead to targeted and more effective assistance, and taking into account the environmental impact;

42. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for effective humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common

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[194] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

43. *Encourages* Member States to take steps to develop or to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of relevant non-sensitive information with humanitarian and development organizations of the United Nations, including through shared platforms and a common approach, in order to inform policy and measures designed to address disaster risks and their consequences, to support preparedness efforts, including forecast-based action, and to improve the effectiveness of a needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

44. *Encourages* Member States, regional organizations, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to improve the identification, mapping and analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, including the local impact of future disaster risk drivers, and the development and implementation of appropriate strategies and programmes to address them, and in this regard encourages all the relevant stakeholders to support Governments in capacity development, including at the regional and local levels, through the sharing of expertise and tools and the provision of necessary resources, as appropriate, to ensure that effective disaster management plans and capacities are in place in accordance with national priorities for disaster risk management;

45. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that gender mainstreaming is better taken into account in all aspects of humanitarian responses and activities, including the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the gender marker;

46. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to promote women's leadership, empowerment and full and effective participation in the planning and implementation of natural disaster response strategies, including through strengthening partnerships with, and building the capacities of, national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations and civil society actors, as appropriate;

47. *Encourages* Governments, local authorities, the United Nations system and regional organizations, and invites donors and other assisting countries, to address the vulnerabilities and capacities of women and girls through gender-responsive programming, including with regard to sexual and reproductive health needs and means to address sexual and gender-based violence and various forms of exploitation during emergencies and in post-disaster environments, and the allocation of resources in their disaster risk reduction, response and recovery efforts in coordination with the Governments of affected countries;

48. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction, recognizes the importance of non-discrimination and their inclusive participation in and contribution to disaster risk reduction, preparedness, emergency response, recovery and transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, recognizing that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple obstacles in accessing humanitarian assistance, and recalls the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action;

49. *Encourages* efforts to provide safe and enabling learning environments and access to quality education for all, especially for girls and boys, in humanitarian emergencies caused by natural disasters, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

50. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

51. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to improve their coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster preparedness, resilience-building and recovery, in support of national authorities, and by ensuring that development actors participate in strategic planning at an early stage;

52. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to support national, subnational and local governments and communities in their responsibility to develop long-term strategies, forecast-based preparedness systems and multi-year operational plans for preparedness that are embedded within disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies in line with the Sendai Framework;

53. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction, in particular preparedness, and early recovery;

54. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are integrated into the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

55. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream early recovery into humanitarian programming, acknowledges that early recovery is an important step towards resilience-building and should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established and complementary humanitarian and development instruments;

56. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to prioritize risk management and shift towards an anticipatory approach to humanitarian crises in order to prevent and reduce human suffering and economic losses;

57. *Notes* the appointments of the Special Envoys on El Niño and Climate by the Secretary-General and their role in calling attention to the severe short- and long-term impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, and looks forward to further work in this regard;

58. *Encourages* interested Member States, with the support of the United Nations development system, to develop integrated, coherent and comprehensive government-led strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, support efforts to build resilience to this phenomenon and collaborate in support of affected countries;

59. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations to enhance the use of common risk analysis, including the use of the Index for Risk Management, to establish the evidence base for short-, medium- and long-term planning and joint strategies for disaster and climate risk management, capacity development and resilience-building, allowing for greater prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

60. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to work towards a common understanding of underlying risks, clarify roles and responsibilities according to their respective mandates and establish joint objectives and programmes informed by affected people, data and analysis to strengthen coordination, collaboration and coherence among short-, medium- and long-term activities to progressively reduce needs and vulnerability, build resilience and manage the risk related to climate change and of disasters and development setbacks over multi-year planning cycles, including through integrating risk management into national sustainable development plans and ensuring the connectivity of humanitarian plans with the longer-term sustainable development priorities of Member States, with a view to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;[189]

61. *Stresses* the need to strengthen resilience at all levels, and in this regard encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to support efforts, as appropriate, to integrate resilience into humanitarian and development programming, and encourages humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common resilience and risk management objectives, achievable through joint analysis, planning, programming and funding;

62. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, as appropriate, including by prioritizing humanitarian tools that strengthen resilience and support livelihoods, such as, but not limited to, cash transfers, vouchers, local procurement of food and services and social safety nets;

63. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to support humanitarian coordinators and resident coordinators in order to strengthen their capacity, inter alia, to support the host Government in implementing preparedness measures and to coordinate preparedness activities of

country teams in support of national efforts, and encourages the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to further strengthen the ability to quickly and flexibly deploy humanitarian professionals to support Governments and country teams in the immediate aftermath of a disaster;

64. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to identify ways to improve the current financing architecture in order to better provide coherent, predictable and flexible longer-term funding for risk management in multi-year strategies and forecasting, in particular preparedness, on the basis of a global assessment of risk, allowing for better prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

65. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for recovery, preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities in order to ensure predictable and timely access to resources for humanitarian assistance in emergencies resulting from disasters associated with natural hazards;

66. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

67. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund, and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

68. *Invites* Member States, the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to harness their differentiated skills, capacities and resources, and also to consider voluntary contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms;

69. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience to disasters as integral elements of sustainable development and in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[195] and promoting a complementary and coherent approach between these agendas and the Sendai Framework;

70. *Strongly encourages* all relevant actors to work to ensure a comprehensive, coherent, systematic and people-centred approach to managing risks, including through, as appropriate, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement[186] and the New Urban Agenda;[188]

71. *Notes* the first World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit;[196]

72. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and to include in his report recommendations on how to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided in ways supportive of the transition from relief to development.

RESOLUTION 71/129

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 8 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

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[195] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[196] A/71/353.

Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay

71/129. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 70/104 of 10 December 2015, as well as Security Council resolutions on the protection of humanitarian personnel, including resolution 2175 (2014) of 29 August 2014, and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

Recalling also all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including resolution 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016,

Reaffirming the principles, rules and relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,[197] and the need to further promote and ensure respect thereof,

Recalling the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[198] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[199] and the obligation of parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances, and urging all such parties to comply with international humanitarian law and ensure respect for and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Deeply concerned by the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Expressing its appreciation to those Governments which respect the internationally agreed principles on the protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, while expressing concern over the lack of respect for these principles in some areas,

Noting the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[200] which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has reached 91, mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention, and welcoming the entry into force on 19 August 2010 of the Optional

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[197] These include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980, as applicable.

[198] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[199] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[200] Ibid., vol. 2051, No. 35457.

Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[201] which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,

Expressing deep concern at the complex and dynamic security environment, marked by the diverse and multifaceted threats and significant security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and the threefold increase in the number of direct attacks against their premises and official vehicles and a 30 per cent increase in casualties of United Nations personnel, as they operate in increasingly high-risk environments,

Deeply concerned about the particular vulnerability of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to safety and security-related incidents, including road traffic accidents, arrest and detention, abduction and intimidation and harassment,

Expressing deep concern at the exposure of female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to certain forms of crime and acts of intimidation and harassment, including sexual violence and other forms of violence against women,

Expressing deep concern also that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that severely restricts the provision of assistance and protection to populations in need, and commending the commitment of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel to stay and deliver effectively the most critical programmes even in dangerous environments,

Stressing the need to uphold the respect and protection which the flag of the United Nations, and the nature of humanitarian work, should command and ensure, and stressing the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions,

Noting that medical personnel, and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, in an armed conflict situation continue to be under a duty to provide competent medical service in full professional and moral independence, with compassion and respect for human dignity, and always to bear in mind human life and to act in the patient's best interest, stressing the need to uphold their respective professional codes of ethics, and further noting the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, especially national and locally recruited personnel, and including those serving with national and international non-governmental organizations in the field, often at great personal risk,

Commending also the courage and commitment of those who take part in peace operations, including peacekeeping operations,[202] often at great personal risk, especially national and locally recruited personnel,

Noting with concern the evolving threats that United Nations personnel face when deployed and that, in 2015, 1,819 persons, representing 1.01 per cent of the United Nations system personnel, were affected by safety and security incidents, with 39 fatalities, of which 23 resulted from acts of violence, namely, crime, acts of terrorism and armed conflict, 229 injuries, of which 99 resulted from acts of violence, 21 abductions, 69 arrested and detained, and 405 reported cases of intimidation and harassment,[203] and noting that these figures do not include United Nations personnel who are not part of the United Nations security management system, such as locally recruited area staff of UNRWA, of whom 21 were injured, 3 abducted and 30 arrested and detained, and 80 reported cases of intimidation and harassment in 2015,[204]

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[201] Resolution 60/42, annex.

[202] The safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers is specifically addressed in the annual report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/70/19)). Except where otherwise specified, the present resolution focuses only on the safety and security of civilian United Nations and associated personnel falling under the United Nations security management system under the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat.

[203] See A/71/395, annexes I and III.

[204] Ibid., annex V.

Strongly condemning all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel, expressing profound regret at the deaths, injuries and abductions resulting from these attacks, noting with concern that there were 287 recorded attacks against humanitarian personnel in 2015, resulting in at least 109 personnel killed, 110 injured and 68 abducted,[205] and noting with concern that casualties continue to take a heavier toll on personnel of non-governmental organizations than on United Nations personnel,[206]

Strongly condemning also all acts of violence, attacks and threats against medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and the prevailing impunity for violations and abuses committed against such personnel, which in turn may contribute to the recurrence of those acts, and deploring the long-term consequences of such acts for the population and health-care systems of the countries concerned, and in this regard welcoming efforts by States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths, illnesses and other adverse consequences affecting humanitarian personnel and health-care personnel as a result of public health hazards, and stressing the need for a conducive environment, appropriate equipment and resilient public health systems, and the urgency of preparedness,

Expressing deep concern at the deep and long-lasting impacts of acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention, to which those participating in humanitarian operations are exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property of humanitarian and United Nations and associated personnel,

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and against their premises or assets do not operate with impunity, that such attacks are investigated promptly and effectively and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, as provided for by national laws and in accordance with obligations under international law,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter, as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under the international law of armed conflict, as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[207] and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited staff, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels, as well as to continue to promote awareness of and sensitivity to national and local cultures and laws,

Gravely concerned at the large number of accidents and resulting casualties among United Nations and associated personnel, and conscious of the importance of road and aviation safety in ensuring the continuity of United Nations operations and preventing casualties among civilians and United Nations and associated personnel, and in this regard regretting the loss of civilian life as a result of such incidents,

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[205] See Aid Worker Security Report 2016.

[206] These data are based entirely on voluntary reporting to the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat (see A/71/395, annex IV). The personnel of non-governmental organizations are not covered by the United Nations security management system.

[207] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Stressing that acceptance of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel by the host Governments, local authorities, local communities, populations and other parties as appropriate crucially contributes to their safety and security,

Noting the importance of reinforcing close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to the security of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the importance of coordinating prevention and mitigation measures and managing security in crisis situations,

Noting also that, in order to remain fit for purpose and to support the effective and principled delivery of humanitarian assistance, the United Nations security management system needs to evolve in response to the challenging global security environment, requiring, inter alia, an effective management structure, adequate and predictable resources and the timely deployment of security personnel with appropriate skills and field experience and of the equipment necessary for the performance of their duties, including vehicles and telecommunications equipment, which have an essential role in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[208]

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and refugee law as applicable, related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the alarming increase in threats to and deliberate targeting of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, acts of terrorism and attacks on humanitarian convoys, and the unprecedented increase in the scale and the increasingly complex nature of threats faced by such personnel, such as the disturbing trend of politically and criminally motivated attacks, including extremist attacks, against them;

4. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

6. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

7. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[207]

8. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[201] and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

9. *Calls upon* all States, all parties involved in armed conflict and all humanitarian actors to respect the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

10. *Welcomes* the contribution of female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in humanitarian and United Nations operations, expresses concern that these personnel may be more exposed to certain forms of violence, including sexual violence, crime and acts of intimidation and harassment,

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[208] A/71/395.

strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to analyse the different forms of violence, including sexual violence, crime, acts of intimidation and harassment to which women and men are differently exposed, and also strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to choose appropriate and gender-sensitive approaches for their safety and security while allowing them to fulfil their duties, and to ensure that female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are meaningfully included in decisions related to their safety and security, and that all reports of sexual violence against humanitarian workers are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with applicable laws;

11. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, also condemns attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission[202] in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, and reaffirms the need to prosecute, penalize and punish those responsible for such acts;

12. *Stresses* the importance of continued close coordination and consultation with host Governments on the functioning of the security risk management process and related tools, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to consult with the host Governments;

13. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided for under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[209] in order to respect and protect civilians, including humanitarian personnel;

14. *Stresses* the obligation, in accordance with international humanitarian law and national laws and regulations, as applicable, to respect and protect medical personnel, as well as humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in all circumstances, in this regard notes the role of domestic legal frameworks and other appropriate measures in promoting the safety and protection of such personnel, urges States and all parties to armed conflict to develop and integrate effective measures to prevent and address violence against such personnel, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and strongly urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law related to the protection of the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities in armed conflict, and, where appropriate, to take action against those responsible in accordance with domestic and international law, with a view to reinforcing preventive measures, ensuring accountability and addressing the grievances of victims;

15. *Strongly urges* all States to take stronger action to ensure that crimes against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, do not remain unpunished and are investigated fully and effectively, and affirms the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of any such acts committed on their territory do not operate with impunity, as provided by national laws and obligations under international law;

16. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel, so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and to ensure their right to legal counsel, and urges States to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

17. *Calls upon* all parties involved in armed conflict not to abduct, take hostage or kidnap humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or to detain them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

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[209] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to promote full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and associated personnel, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[210] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[211] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[200]

19. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the ongoing efforts of the United Nations to develop a more systematic follow-up process with relevant host Governments on cases of serious crimes and acts of violence resulting in the death or serious injury of United Nations system personnel, in order to bring perpetrators to justice;

21. *Calls attention to and reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter;

22. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are aware and respectful of national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations in order to enhance their acceptance, thereby contributing to their safety and security, and in this regard ensure that humanitarian action is guided by humanitarian principles;

23. *Urges* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk-management strategy the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and the promotion of acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors with a view to enhancing safety and security;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with the minimum operating security standards and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national laws and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in coordination with Member States, to take the necessary measures to ensure that all United Nations premises and assets, including staff residences, are compliant with the United Nations minimum operating security standards and other relevant United Nations security standards, and to continue the ongoing assessment of United Nations premises and physical security worldwide;

26. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel receive adequate safety and security training, stresses the need to continue to improve training so as to enhance cultural awareness and knowledge of relevant law, including international humanitarian law, prior to their deployment to the field, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

27. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide counselling and support services to United Nations personnel affected by safety and security incidents, and emphasizes the importance of making available

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[210] Resolution 22 A (I).

[211] Resolution 179 (II).

stress management, mental health and related services for United Nations personnel throughout the system, and encourages all humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

28. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing measures taken by the Secretary- General and the United Nations system to enhance road safety, including through improved training and initiatives to promote road safety so as to reduce incidents caused by road hazards and, in particular, to reduce casualties or injuries resulting from these incidents among United Nations and associated personnel and among the civilian population in the host country, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the collection and analysis of data and to report on road incidents, including civilian casualties resulting from road accidents;

29. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, including the progress and the continuation of the integration of all security personnel of the Secretariat under the leadership of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security, and supports the continued implementation of the stay-and-deliver strategy while focusing on effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed in order to enable the United Nations system to deliver the most critical programmes, even in high-risk environments;

30. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue consistent implementation of the programme criticality framework as an operational tool allowing informed decisions on acceptable risk to United Nations personnel;

31. *Also encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to develop enabling procedures that facilitate the deployment of suitably qualified United Nations security personnel, with the aim of improving the safety and security measures of the United Nations, in order to strengthen the ability of the United Nations to deliver on its programmes, mandates and activities, including humanitarian programmes;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue the increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, including field crisis management and gender inclusion in security management, and calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts;

33. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to make every effort to support in their public statements a favourable environment for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

34. *Emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, who play an important role, are often at great personal risk, account for the large majority of casualties and are particularly vulnerable to attacks, including in cases of kidnapping, harassment, banditry and intimidation, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant United Nations safety and security policy and to enhance the safety and security of locally recruited personnel, while maintaining operational effectiveness, and calls upon the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to ensure that their personnel are adequately consulted on, informed about and trained in the relevant security measures, plans and initiatives of their respective organizations, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law;

35. *Notes with appreciation* the progress reported in implementing the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Safety and Security of United Nations Personnel and Premises Worldwide;

36. *Requests* the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat to further strengthen the security management of the United Nations, focusing on strengthening security risk management policy and tools and their application, increasing situational awareness and analysis capacity, strengthening policy development and promoting best practices, increasing compliance with risk management measures and improving monitoring and evaluation, enhancing surge capacity for emergency response, devising effective physical security measures, developing the expertise of security professionals and strengthening support to the designated officials and the security management teams in the field, and promoting an effective and preventive security management approach that is multidimensional;

37. *Welcomes* the work of the Secretary-General in enhancing security collaboration with host Governments, including efforts to support United Nations designated officials with regard to collaboration with host Government authorities on staff safety and security;

38. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified and robust capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment and operational and deployment flexibility to ensure that the security workforce reflects the changing dynamics of the security environment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

39. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far, and encourages further efforts to enhance coordination and cooperation, at both the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, based on the "Saving Lives Together" framework as well as other relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General in this respect to enhance further collaborative initiatives to address the security needs of implementing partners, including through enhanced information-sharing and, where appropriate, security training, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

40. *Underlines* the urgent need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, through regular and extrabudgetary resources, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to meet its mandate and responsibilities to enable the safe delivery of programmes;

41. *Also underlines* the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations;

42. *Calls upon* States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,[212] which entered into force on 8 January 2005, and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in those and other relief operations, inter alia, by limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of the impact of safety and security risks on such personnel, and the development, implementation and outcomes of policies, strategies and initiatives of the United Nations system in the field of safety and security.

RESOLUTION 71/130

Adopted at the 58th plenary meeting, on 9 December 2016, by a recorded vote of 122 to 13, with 36 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.39 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Libya,

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[212] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guinea-Bissau, India, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam

71/130. The situation in the Syrian Arab Republic

The General Assembly,

Guided by its strong commitment to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014 and 70/234 of 23 December 2015, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,[213] S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,[213] S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,[214] 19/1 of 1 March 2012,[215] 19/22 of 23 March 2012,[215] S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,[216] 20/22 of 6 July 2012,[217] 22/24 of 22 March 2013,[218] 23/1 of 29 May 2013,[219] 23/26 of 14 June 2013,[219] 24/22 of 27 September 2013,[220] 25/23 of 28 March 2014,[221] 31/17 of 23 March 2016,[222] 32/25 of 1 July 2016,[223] 33/23 of 30 September 2016[224] and S-25/1 of 21 October 2016,[225]

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2175 (2014) of 29 August 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016, 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016 and 2314 (2016) of 31 October 2016, and expressing outrage that these resolutions have not been fully implemented,

Recalling that, amid expressions of popular discontent over restrictions on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic and social rights, civilian protests erupted in Dar'a in March 2011, and noting that the excessive and violent oppression of civilian protests by the Syrian authorities, which later escalated to the direct shelling of civilian population areas, fuelled the escalation of armed violence and extremist groups, including so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh),

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[213] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[214] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[215] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[216] Ibid., chap. V.

[217] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[218] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[219] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[220] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[221] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[222] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. II.

[223] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[224] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/71/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[225] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* (A/71/53/Add.2), chap. II.

Expressing outrage at the escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular in Aleppo, and the extensive and persistent violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law, including those involving the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure, notably through shelling and aerial bombardment, the use of chemical weapons, as concluded by the Joint Investigative Mechanism, and other prohibited weapons, and the use of siege and starvation of civilians as a method of warfare, which have caused profound suffering and loss of life, have created conditions conducive to the rise and spread of terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism and have caused an exodus of Syrian refugees,

Recalling the primary responsibility of the Syrian Arab Republic to protect its population, and condemning the repeated disregard of the purpose and principles of the Charter, and violations of international humanitarian law and of international human rights law, throughout the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and recalling also the need for all parties to the conflict to fully comply with their obligations under international law, in particular the Charter, international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and expressing deep concern at the lack of compliance with these obligations,

Expressing alarm at the failure to implement relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions and the continued disregard for international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and expressing alarm that the responsibility of the Security Council to ensure prompt and effective action has not been further discharged with regard to the Syrian Arab Republic,

Expressing grave concern at the continued deterioration of the devastating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and the fact that more than 13.5 million people are now in need of humanitarian assistance in the Syrian Arab Republic, expressing grave concern at the increasing number of refugees and internally displaced persons caused by the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the nearly 6.3 million people who are internally displaced, in addition to the half million Palestinian refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic, expressing the gravest concern at the destabilizing effect of the crisis on the region, underlining the extreme urgency of finding a political solution, and reiterating its appreciation for the significant and admirable efforts that have been made by the countries of the region, notably, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, to accommodate the more than 4.8 million registered refugees who have fled the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the ongoing violence,

Expressing grave concern also at the dire situation of the civilian population, in particular of the 974,080 people trapped in besieged areas, as well as the dire situation of nearly 3.9 million people in hard-to-reach areas,

Strongly condemning and deploring all acts of violence, attacks and threats against the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport, equipment and supplies, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and deploring the long-term consequences of such attacks for the civilian population and the health-care system of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Strongly alarmed that attacks against schools, schoolchildren and teachers are commonplace, risking losing a generation as a result of the over 2 million out-of-school children and adolescents and the one in three schools being damaged, destroyed or occupied,

Deeply concerned by the situation of vulnerable persons, including women and children, who are subjected to discrimination, sexual and gender-based violence, abduction, physical abuse, violation of their privacy and arbitrary arrest and detention, deploring all violations against children, including the recruitment and use of children, and condemning the use by the Syrian authorities and all other parties of enforced disappearances, extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and torture,

Recalling the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic of 11 August 2016,[226] which reiterated key recommendations calling for all parties to, inter alia, restore and revitalize the cessation of hostilities, minimize civilian casualties and end indiscriminate attacks, allow rapid, safe, sustained, unhindered and unconditional access for humanitarian aid and end all sieges immediately,

Deeply concerned by the presence of terrorist organizations in the Syrian Arab Republic and the spread of violent extremism conducive to terrorism, strongly condemning all terrorist attacks, abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law carried out by so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Al-Nusrah Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida or ISIL (also known as Da'esh), and other terrorist groups, as designated by the Security Council, and reiterating the call upon all parties to commit to putting an end to terrorist acts perpetrated by such organizations and individuals, while reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed,

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[226] A/HRC/33/55.

Recalling the importance of the principles of distinction and proportionality, which, inter alia, refer to the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilian populations and combatants, the prohibition against indiscriminate attacks, and the obligation to do everything feasible to verify that the objects to be attacked are neither civilians nor civilian objects and are not subject to special protection, and recalling further the obligation to take all other feasible precautions with a view to avoiding, and in any event minimizing, harm to civilians and civilian objects, including schools, water, medical facilities as such and all other objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population,

Deeply disturbed by the continued denial of access to urgently needed humanitarian relief, particularly the denial of authorization by the Syrian regime, and the persistent lack of security and lack of freedom of movement and the presence of any other conditions that impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance and supplies, as assessed and provided by the United Nations, its implementing partners and all other humanitarian actors, to destinations within the Syrian Arab Republic, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas, and stressing the need to strengthen a gender perspective in all humanitarian efforts,

Recalling that all Syrian parties to the conflict shall enable the immediate and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance, and stressing that the arbitrary denial of humanitarian access, depriving civilians of objects and assistance indispensable to their survival, including wilfully impeding relief supplies such as food aid and lifesaving medical supplies, and the use of starvation as a method of warfare may constitute a war crime,

Stressing the need to end impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and for violations and abuses of international human rights law in the Syrian Arab Republic, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, and re-emphasizing the need for all those responsible to be held accountable,

Emphasizing that the humanitarian situation will continue to deteriorate further in the absence of a political solution, and reiterating that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people,

Reiterating its determination to seek ways and means to protect the Syrian civilian population and persons hors de combat,

1. *Demands* an immediate and complete end to all attacks on civilians and civilian objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, as well as an immediate end to all sieges in the Syrian Arab Republic, including in Aleppo;

2. *Also demands* the immediate cessation of hostilities, as described in Security Council resolution 2268 (2016), as well as rapid, safe, sustained, unhindered and unconditional humanitarian access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic for the United Nations and its specialized agencies, and all humanitarian actors;

3. *Further demands* that all parties to the Syrian conflict immediately comply with their obligations under applicable international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including with respect to all besieged and hard-to-reach areas inside the Syrian Arab Republic;

4. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities;

5. *Also demands* that all parties to the conflict fully and immediately implement all the provisions of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015, 2209 (2015), 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015), 2268 (2016) and 2286 (2016);

6. *Highlights its demand* for the full and immediate implementation of Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), which, inter alia, reiterates that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab

Republic is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people, with a view to full implementation of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012, as endorsed by the Council in resolution 2118 (2013), including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring continuity of governmental institutions;

7. *Reaffirms its support* for a credible, inclusive and non-sectarian Syrian-led political process, involving women and civil society, facilitated by the United Nations, requests the Secretary-General, through his good offices and the efforts of his Special Envoy for Syria, to resume the formal negotiations between representatives of the Syrian authorities and the opposition under the auspices of the United Nations, based on the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012 and relevant Security Council resolutions, with a view to a lasting political settlement of the crisis, as soon as possible, and urges the representatives of the Syrian authorities and the opposition to engage in good faith in these negotiations;

8. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, and calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may constitute crimes against humanity;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure accountability for crimes involving violations of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through appropriate, fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level, and stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal to ensure justice for all victims and contribute to the prevention of future violations;

10. *Urges* the Security Council to further exercise its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security by taking additional measures to address the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the devastating humanitarian crisis, and stresses in this regard Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the implementation of the cessation of hostilities, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present resolution, the extent to which all parties to the Syrian conflict, in particular the Syrian authorities, are complying with their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and progress towards a genuine political transition, and to provide recommendations on ways and means to protect civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic, within 45 days of the adoption of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/131

Adopted at the 60th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.40, sponsored by: Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Sweden

71/131. Tribute to Mr. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/3 of 13 October 2006, by which Mr. Ban Ki-moon was appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1715 (2006) of 9 October 2006, by which the Council recommended to the General Assembly that Mr. Ban Ki-moon be appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations,

Welcoming Security Council resolution 2311 (2016) of 6 October 2016,

Recalling its resolution 71/4 of 13 October 2016, by which it appointed Mr. António Guterres Secretary-General,

Acknowledging with deep gratitude the tireless efforts and dedicated service provided to the Organization during the past 10 years by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *Recognizing* the high professional and personal qualities and the unwavering dedication and solid leadership he brought to the performance of his duties and responsibilities,

Placing on special record his many bold initiatives – political, diplomatic and organizational – and his important achievements, in particular with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on climate change, the advancement of human rights, including in areas of women's empowerment and gender equality, and United Nations reform,

1. *Pays warm tribute* to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his exceptional contribution to the work of the Organization, and his noteworthy achievements in improving people's lives and protecting our planet for future generations, and in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in the interest of a safer and more secure world;

2. *Expresses its deep gratitude* to Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for having undertaken initiatives and advanced numerous proposals with a view to enhancing the Organization's capacity to meet the major challenges of our time in the areas of peace and security, sustainable development and human rights.

RESOLUTION 71/132

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 12 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/71/670)

71/132. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-first session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[227] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.[227]

RESOLUTION 71/158

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.35 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/158. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2015,[228]

Taking note of the statement by the Director General of the Agency, in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2016,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency,

Recognizing also the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

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[227] A/71/670.

[228] See A/71/322.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[258]

2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(60)/RES/9 on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety; GC(60)/RES/10 on nuclear security; GC(60)/RES/11 on the strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities; GC(60)/RES/12 on strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications, comprising GC(60)/RES/12 A on non-power nuclear applications, GC(60)/RES/12 B on nuclear power applications and GC(60)/RES/12 C on nuclear knowledge management; GC(60)/RES/13 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of Agency safeguards; GC(60)/RES/14 on the implementation of the Agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; and GC(60)/RES/15 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East; and decisions GC(60)/DEC/8 on streamlining the work of the General Conference; GC(60)/DEC/10 on the amendment to article XIV.A of the Statute of the Agency; and GC(60)/DEC/11 on the promotion of efficiency and effectiveness of the Agency's decision-making process, adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixtieth regular session, held from 26 to 30 September 2016;

3. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;

4. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 71/159

Adopted at the 63rd plenary meeting, on 15 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.41 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Viet Nam

71/159. Global health and foreign policy: health employment and economic growth

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/33 of 26 November 2008, 64/108 of 10 December 2009, 65/95 of 9 December 2010, 66/115 of 12 December 2011, 67/81 of 12 December 2012, 68/98 of 11 December 2013, 69/132 of 11 December 2014 and 70/183 of 17 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[229] international humanitarian law, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[230] and the Constitution of the World Health Organization,[231]

Recognizing that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development and that, despite progress made, challenges in global health, including major inequities and vulnerabilities within and among countries, regions and populations, still remain and demand persistent attention,

Underscoring the fact that global health is also a long-term objective which is national, regional and international in scope and requires sustained attention, commitment and closer international cooperation, beyond emergencies,

Reaffirming the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions, with particular attention to the alarming situation of millions of people for whom access to medicines remains a distant goal, in particular vulnerable populations and destitute people,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goal 3, "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages", reaffirming its specific and interlinked targets, as well as other health-related Goals and targets, and noting that they can contribute to progressively realizing the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 32/16 of 1 July 2016 on promoting the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through enhancing capacity-building in public health,[232] and that economic and social development are enhanced through measures that strengthen capacity-building, including the training, recruitment and retention of sufficient and suitably qualified health workers,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 32/15 of 1 July 2016 on access to medicines in the context of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,[232] which recognizes, inter alia, that access to medicines, in particular essential medicines that are affordable, safe, efficacious and of quality, is one of the fundamental elements in achieving progressively the full realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Recalling further the World Health Organization global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property,[233] designed to promote medicinal innovation, build capacity and improve access to medicines, and reiterating that health research and development should be needs-driven, evidence-based, guided by the core principles of affordability, effectiveness, efficiency and equity and considered a shared responsibility,

Recognizing the importance of the social and health sectors in economic growth and the collective need to increase health employment, and that investing in health workers is one part of the broader objective of strengthening health systems and social protection and essentially constitutes the first line of defence against international health crises,

Underlining that health workers are the cornerstone of a resilient health system and that the domestic health workforce is the primary responder in all countries, including those with fragile health systems, and is key to building resilient health systems, and noting that the traditional and complementary medicine workforce may form a substantial component of the health workforce in many countries,

Acknowledging that twenty-first century health challenges related to demographic, epidemiological and technological changes will require a health workforce geared towards health promotion, disease prevention and people-centred, community-based health services and personalized long-term care,

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[229] Resolution 217 A (III).

[230] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[231] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 14, No. 221.

[232] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[233] World Health Organization, document WHA61/2008/REC/1, resolution 61.21, annex, and document WHA62/2009/REC/1, annex 4.

Affirming that achieving universal health coverage requires disaggregated statistical data about the quality and quantity of health personnel that would help to make projections with regard to health workers in demand, taking into account demographic, epidemiological and technological changes in the twenty-first century, and more health workers in decent jobs,

Recognizing that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization is an important instrument for achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, respecting the rights of community-based health workers and promoting better working environments and incentives,

Reaffirming that investing in new health workforce employment opportunities may also add broader socioeconomic value to the global economy and national economies and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that substantive reforms and strategic investments in global health workforce data, as well as a substantial shift in health workforce planning, education, deployment, retention, management and remuneration and decent employment, would also make a strong contribution towards attaining Sustainable Development Goal 3,

Recognizing the need to substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in the least developed countries and small island developing States,

Recognizing also that unpaid and informal care roles are performed mainly by women and girls, that women constitute the majority of those employed in the health and social sectors, that women are important contributors to economic development, as well as to public health, and that investments in the health sector could enhance women's economic empowerment and participation, transform unpaid and informal care roles into decent work and promote opportunities for skills enhancement and measures to retain and promote women into leadership positions, and recognizing further the importance of policies and strategies that eliminate gender biases and inequality and empower and strengthen the representation, engagement and leadership of women to maximize their significant contribution to the sustainable development agenda and targets related to women's participation and empowerment in the economic workforce,

Recognizing further that investments in health employment may expand skills development and generate decent work opportunities and career ladders for young persons, including young women, and recognizing the significance of such investments against a context of growing global youth unemployment,

Recognizing that the international mobility of health workers may bring numerous benefits to source and destination nations and to health workers themselves and that increasing migration poses new challenges for global health, especially in the area related to the health workforce, and recognizing also the need to better manage the migration of health workers internationally and within countries and the need for further work in mitigating this challenge in line with the World Health Organization Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel,[234]

Deeply concerned by the rising global health workforce deficit, recognizing the global mismatch between the supply, need, demand and distribution of health workers and the estimated shortfall of 18 million health workers required for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that health workers are integral to building strong and resilient health systems that contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets related to nutrition, poverty, health, education, gender equality, employment and inclusive growth, and to the reduction of inequalities,

Recognizing that the global mismatch between the supply, need and demand for mental health workers is particularly acute, especially in low- and middle-income countries,

Recalling the Recife Political Declaration on Human Resources for Health: renewed commitments towards universal health coverage,[235] and the adoption by the sixty-ninth World Health Assembly of its resolution 69.19 of 28 May 2016, entitled "Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030",[236] in which the World

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[234] World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1, annex 5.

[235] World Health Organization, document EB134/55, annex.

[236] See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

Health Assembly invited international, regional, national and local partners and stakeholders from the health sector and beyond to engage in and support the implementation of the global strategy[237] and achieve its milestones for 2020 and 2030, in alignment with national institutional mechanisms in order to coordinate an intersectoral health workforce agenda,

Underscoring the need for far-reaching partnerships for global health to support the promotion of, inter alia, gender equality and women's empowerment and ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and women's and girls' full enjoyment of all human rights, so as to contribute to the eradication of poverty and to economic and social development, including improved health outcomes,

Underlining the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of the international community and with a view to providing access to health services for all, in particular those who are vulnerable or marginalized, such as women and children,

Recognizing the need to train health professionals to deal with the health issues associated with population movements,

Underscoring the importance of enhanced international cooperation and assistance to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, implement universal access to health services and address health challenges, while taking into account different national circumstances and capacities and respecting national policies and priorities,

Underlining the urgency of having strong and resilient health systems capable of implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),[238] ensuring pandemic preparedness and the prevention and detection of and response to any outbreaks, and underscoring the importance of motivated, well-trained and appropriately equipped health professionals and health workers,

Noting that highly infectious pathogens with epidemic potential may evolve into public health emergencies of international concern, recognizing the need for strong local, national, regional and international preparedness and response in this field, and underlining the urgent need to accelerate the research and development of vaccines, medicines and diagnostic tools while ensuring the promotion of equitable and affordable access, through, inter alia, international cooperation and collaborative partnerships,

Reaffirming the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement), the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, the decision of the General Council of the World Trade Organization of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health and, when formal acceptance procedures are completed, the amendment to article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement, as proposed by the General Council of the World Trade Organization in its decision of 6 December 2005, which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all, and to encourage the provision of assistance to developing countries in this regard, and calling for broad and timely acceptance of the amendment to article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement,

Recognizing the continued importance of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which recognizes that intellectual property protection is important for the development of new medicines and also recognizes the concerns about its effects on prices,

Welcoming the recently adopted political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance,[239] and in this regard noting the impact of antimicrobial resistance, in particular on the treatment of tuberculosis,

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[237] Ibid., annex 7.

[238] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

[239] Resolution 71/3.

Recognizing that rapidly changing technologies, particularly digital technologies, have the potential to enhance people's access to health services, improve the responsiveness of the health system to the needs of individuals and communities and increase the quality and efficiency of health services,

Recognizing that an enhanced health workforce is required to contribute to effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the High-level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises,[240] recognizing the continued importance of the global response to health crises, welcoming the leadership of the Secretary-General in responding to the system-wide challenges facing the United Nations in this field, noting the ongoing discussion on the standard operating procedures for humanitarian actors in large-scale infectious disease events in humanitarian contexts, and looking forward to the continuing follow-up to the Panel's report,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth to consolidate the evidence base and propose actions to guide and stimulate the creation of health and social sector jobs as a means to advance inclusive economic growth, and looking forward to discussions on and follow-up to the Commission's report,

Taking note of the report of the High-level Panel on Access to Medicines, and acknowledging the need for further discussions on access to medicines among Member States and all relevant stakeholders,

Recognizing the close relationship between foreign policy and global health and their interdependence, and in that regard recognizing that global challenges require concerted and sustained efforts by the international community,

Noting the significant role of the Foreign Policy and Global Health Initiative in the past 10 years in promoting synergy between foreign policy and global health, as well as the Oslo Ministerial Declaration of 20 March 2007, entitled "Global health: a pressing foreign policy issue of our time",[241] which encouraged global engagement for health, rooted in global solidarity and shared responsibility,

Emphasizing that the United Nations system has an important responsibility to assist Governments in the follow-up to and full implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, especially those focusing on health-related areas,

Emphasizing the important role of the World Health Organization, as the United Nations specialized agency for health, as the lead agency to support the implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005) and as the health cluster lead, in the international response to outbreaks and emergencies with health consequences, and encouraging the ongoing work to reform and improve the emergency response capacity of the World Health Organization, as required, to meet these responsibilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the state of health security[242] and on global health and foreign policy;[243]

2. *Reiterates* the call for more attention to health, which is a state of complete, physical, mental and social well-being, as an important cross-cutting policy issue on the international agenda, as it is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of all three dimensions of sustainable development, and for recognition that global health challenges require policy coherence across government and concerted, sustained and intersectoral efforts;

3. *Urges* Member States to continue to consider health issues in the formulation of foreign policy;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and strengthen, as appropriate, their dialogue with other stakeholders, including civil society, academia and the private sector, in order to maximize their engagement and contribution to solving global health challenges, while at the same time safeguarding public health interests from

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[240] A/70/723.

[241] A/63/591, annex.

[242] A/71/598.

[243] A/71/601.

undue influence by any form of real, perceived or potential conflict of interest, through the management of risk, the strengthening of due diligence and accountability and an increase in the transparency of engagement;

5. *Encourages* greater coherence among United Nations bodies and entities on matters related to global health and foreign policy, including through the consideration, where appropriate, of related actions;

6. *Notes* the adoption of World Health Assembly resolution 69.19, entitled "Global strategy on human resources for health: workforce 2030",[236] in which the World Health Assembly invited international, regional, national and local partners and stakeholders from the health sector and beyond to engage in and support the implementation of the global strategy[237] and achieve its milestones for 2020 and 2030, in alignment with national institutional mechanisms in order to coordinate an intersectoral health workforce agenda;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to actively implement its resolution 69/132, including the development of effective preventive measures for the protection of health workers, and noting that the global strategy proposes policy options for Member States relating to this issue and facilitates World Health Organization support to Member States, upon request and in accordance with national legislation and priorities;

8. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their institutional mechanisms to coordinate an intersectoral health workforce agenda encompassing relevant national policies and broader socioeconomic development contexts, in line with national priorities;

9. *Urges* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights law, including the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, to promote equal access to health services and the development and attainment by Member States of resilient and sustainable health systems capable of responding effectively to outbreaks and emergencies and of implementing an effective response to the broader dimensions of outbreaks and emergencies that include access to basic health-care services, including maternal, newborn and child health and sexual and reproductive health, as well as food security and nutrition, housing and education;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Health Crises Task Force by the Secretary-General to support and monitor the implementation of recommendations contained in the report of the High-level Panel on the Global Response to Health Crises,[240] noting the ongoing discussion on the standard operating procedures for humanitarian actors in large-scale infectious disease events in humanitarian contexts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide periodic updates on the work of the Task Force and its recommendations, in close consultation with the Director General of the World Health Organization;

11. *Notes* that challenges in global health still remain and demand persistent attention and that this urgently requires the fulfilment of commitments to strengthen the global partnership for development, and emphasizes in particular in this regard North-South cooperation, the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation and the exchange of best practices, as well as capacity-building and the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, to address health inequities in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, in line with national priorities;

12. *Calls upon* partnerships for global health to support Member States, including low-income countries, in carrying out their primary responsibility to accelerate the transition towards universal health coverage, which implies that all people have equal access, without discrimination of any kind, to nationally determined sets of quality promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative basic health services needed and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services and medicines does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a specific emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to make greater investments and promote decent work with adequate remuneration in the health and social sectors, enable safe working environments and conditions, effective retention and equitable and broad distribution of the health workforce, and strengthen capacities to optimize the existing health workforce, including through expanding rural and community-based health education and training, to contribute to the achievement of universal health coverage;

14. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen the relevance, effectiveness and implementation of the World Health Organization Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel;[234]

15. *Commits* to support technology transfer arrangements on mutually agreed and advantageous terms with the objective of increasing the availability and affordability of medicines and related health technologies and to encourage the utilization of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, created as a component of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, to identify and examine technology needs and gaps;

16. *Welcomes* the convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance and the adoption of its political declaration,[239] which reaffirmed the World Health Organization global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,[244] recognized the grave challenge of antimicrobial resistance and the need for a multisectoral One Health approach, and requested the Secretary-General to update Member States on the creation and work of the ad hoc inter-agency coordination group, bearing in mind that its recommendations are to be submitted to the Assembly by its seventy-third session;

17. *Also welcomes* the convening of the 2016 high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS and the adoption of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030,[245] which sets targets to be achieved by 2020 and reaffirms the commitment to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030;

18. *Further welcomes* the report of the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, and recognizes the need for consideration of and action on its recommendations with the aim of contributing to global inclusive economic growth and the creation of decent jobs and achieving universal health coverage, and for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[246] and to meet the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals;

19. *Encourages* actions in support of the creation of some 40 million new jobs in the health and social sector by 2030, paying specific attention to addressing the projected shortages of 18 million health workers by 2030, primarily in low- and middle-income countries, as recommended by the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth;

20. *Urges* Member States to consider the recommendations of the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, including the development of intersectoral plans and investment in education and job creation in the health and social sectors;

21. *Notes* the initiative to hold, in Moscow in November 2017, a global ministerial conference on the fight against tuberculosis in the context of public health and the Sustainable Development Goals;

22. *Decides* to hold a high-level meeting in 2018 on the fight against tuberculosis, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to propose options and modalities for the conduct of such a meeting, including potential deliverables, building on existing efforts in this regard;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote discussion among Member States and relevant stakeholders on appropriate policy options to promote access to medicines, innovation and health technologies, as well as other, broader aspects, bearing in mind, as appropriate, all relevant reports, such as the report of the High-level Panel on Access to Medicines and the report of the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the World Trade Organization entitled *Promoting Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation*;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director General of the World Health Organization and the Director General of the International Labour Organization, as well as other relevant international organizations, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Global health and foreign policy", on the operationalization of the immediate actions and five-year action plan of the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth.

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[244] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

[245] Resolution 70/266, annex.

[246] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 71/160

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.38 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Palau, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/160. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and 59/10 of 27 October 2004, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/9 of 3 November 2005, 61/10 of 3 November 2006, 62/271 of 23 July 2008, 63/135 of 11 December 2008, 65/4 of 18 October 2010, 67/17 of 28 November 2012 and 69/6 of 31 October 2014,

Recalling also its resolution 67/296 of 23 August 2013, in which it proclaimed 6 April the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace,

Recalling further its resolution 70/4 of 26 October 2015 on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal, and all of its previous resolutions on this matter,

Recognizing the contribution of sport to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, as declared in its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 65/1 of 22 September 2010,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[247] inter alia, sport is recognized as an important enabler for sustainable development,

Recognizing the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations system and its country programmes as well as the role of Member States in promoting human development through sport and physical education,

Acknowledging also the importance of sport and physical activity in combating non-communicable diseases, as reflected in the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[248]

Acknowledging further the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport and the International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, including the declarations that it has adopted, as well as the convening of the sixth International Conference, to be held in Kazan, Russian Federation, in June 2017, as a forum where commitments and recommendations are formulated to strengthen the educational, cultural and social dimensions of sport and physical education, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda,

Acknowledging the revised International Charter for Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-eighth session in November 2015,

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[247] Resolution 70/1.

[248] Resolution 66/2, annex.

Taking note of the proclamation by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, at its thirty-eighth session, of 20 September as the International Day of University Sport,

Acknowledging the Olympic Charter, and that any form of discrimination is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic movement,

Welcoming the memorandum of understanding signed between the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations in April 2014, in which a call was made to strengthen efforts around sport-based initiatives that encourage social and economic development, as well as to strengthen the many partnerships that United Nations organizations have established with the Committee,

Affirming the invaluable contribution of the Olympic and Paralympic movements in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the opportunities provided by past Olympic and Paralympic Games, including those held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2016, which, inter alia, inspired youth by the potential presented by sport for social inclusion, as well as the Youth Olympic Games, held in Lillehammer, Norway, in February 2016, welcoming with appreciation all upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games, in particular those to be held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in 2018, in Tokyo in 2020, and in Beijing in 2022, as well as the Youth Olympic Games to be held in Buenos Aires in 2018 and Lausanne, Switzerland, in 2020, and calling upon future hosts of such Games and other Member States to include sport, as appropriate, in conflict prevention activities and to ensure the effective implementation of the Olympic Truce during the Games,

Recognizing the role that the Paralympic movement plays in showcasing the achievements of athletes with disabilities to a global audience and in acting as a primary vehicle to promote positive perceptions and greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport and society,

Recognizing also the importance of international, continental and regional sport events, such as the Special Olympics World Games, the Deaflympics, the European Games, the Pan American Games and the Parapan American Games, the All Africa Games, the Asian Games, the Pacific Games, the World Nomad Games and the Commonwealth Games, for promoting education, health, development and peace,

Highlighting the importance of continuing to reduce barriers to participation in sport events, particularly for participants from developing countries,

Recalling article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[249] outlining a child's right to play and leisure, and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[250] stressing the promotion of physical, mental and emotional health through play and sports,

Recalling also articles 1 and 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[251] in which States parties recognized the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport, and recognizing that the active involvement of persons with disabilities in sport contributes to the full and equal realization of their human rights, as well as respect for their inherent dignity,

Recognizing the important role played by the International Convention against Doping in Sport[252] in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against doping in sport, which are complementary to those undertaken by the sporting movement under the World Anti-Doping Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency,

Acknowledging the recommendations contained in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled "Harnessing the power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments", and encouraging Member States to implement and further develop those recommendations,

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[249] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[250] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[251] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[252] Ibid., vol. 2419, No. 43649.

Recalling the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and the opportunities that it provides within its mandate for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in and through sport, and welcoming the continued advancement of women in sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressively higher participation in sport events, which provides opportunities for economic development through sports,

Recalling also the political declaration[253] and outcome[254] adopted at the five-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[255] and the commitments made therein to ensure equal opportunity for women and girls in recreational and sports activities, as well as in participation in athletics and physical activities at the national, regional and international levels, such as access, training, competition, remuneration and prizes,

Emphasizing the critical role of productive public-private partnerships for funding sport for development and peace programmes, institutional development and physical and social infrastructures,

Recognizing that major international sport events should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship, tolerance and inadmissibility of discrimination of any kind and that the unifying and conciliative nature of such events should be respected,

1. *Reaffirms* that sport is an important enabler of sustainable development, and recognizes the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives;

2. *Encourages* Member States to effectively use all the opportunities offered by sport and by its values in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[247] and in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport for development and peace: towards sport's enabling of sustainable development and peace",[256] which reviewed the programmes and initiatives implemented by States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and other partners using sport as a tool for development and peace;

4. *Invites* Member States, the entities of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions, special political missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society, academia and the private sector to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace to promote greater awareness and action to foster development and peace and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through sport-based initiatives and to promote the integration of sport for development and peace in the development agenda by working along the following principles adapted from the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, contained in the report of the Secretary-General:[257]

(*a*) Global framework for sport for development and peace: further develop a framework to strengthen a common vision, define priorities and raise greater awareness in order to promote and mainstream policies on sport for development and peace that are easily replicable;

(*b*) Policy development: promote and support the integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace in development programmes and policies, including mechanisms for growth and wealth;

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[253] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[254] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[255] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[256] A/71/179.

[257] Ibid., sect. VII.

(*c*) Resource mobilization, programming and implementation: promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements at all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector, to create and implement effective programmes with sustainable impact;

(*d*) Evidence of impact and follow-up: promote and facilitate monitoring and evaluation tools, including indicators, data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards;

5. *Encourages* Member States to provide institutional structures, appropriate quality standards, policies and competencies and promote academic research and expertise in the field to enable ongoing training, capacity-building and education of physical education teachers, coaches and community leaders in sport for development and peace programmes;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to advance the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development and peace strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development and peace policies and programmes, on the basis of standards, indicators and benchmarks, as well as to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of such strategies, policies and programmes;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to leverage sport and physical education policies and programmes to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

8. *Invites* Member States and international sport organizations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sport-based programmes;

9. *Encourages* the stakeholders referred to in paragraph 4 above to emphasize and advance the use of sport as a vehicle to foster sustainable development, strengthen education, including physical education, for children and young persons, including persons with disabilities, promote health, prevent disease, including non-communicable diseases, and drug abuse, realize gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, foster inclusion and well-being, ensure the participation of everyone without discrimination of any kind, promote tolerance, mutual understanding and respect and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

10. *Encourages* the stakeholders, and in particular the organizers of mega sport events, to use and leverage such events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives and to strengthen existing and build new partnerships, coordinate common strategies, policies and programmes and increase coherence and synergies, while raising awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels;

11. *Encourages* Member States to adopt best practices and means to promote the practice of sport and physical activities among all members of society, and in this regard welcomes initiatives to adopt dedicated health, youth and sport days, including specialized sport days, at the national and local levels, as a means to promote physical and mental health and well-being and cultivate a sport culture in society;

12. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to designate a focal point for sport for development and peace within their Governments and to provide updates to the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace on institutional, policy and programme-related developments;

13. *Supports* the independence and autonomy of sport as well as the mission of the International Olympic Committee in leading the Olympic movement and of the International Paralympic Committee in leading the Paralympic movement;

14. *Encourages* relevant entities involved in delivering mega sport events to respect applicable laws and international principles, including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[258] and noting other ongoing initiatives in this regard, at every stage of the event life cycle, to safeguard the many societal benefits that hosting such events can contribute;

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[258] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

15. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, acceding to and implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child[249] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[259] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[251] and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;[252]

16. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, Member States and civil society for the observance of the Olympic Truce, and encourages future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to support the effective implementation of the Truce;

17. *Appreciates* the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, supported by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, on issues relating to sport for development and peace within the United Nations system and beyond, through innovative initiatives such as the Youth Leadership Programme;

18. *Notes* the inclusion of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace as a major organizational unit of the Secretariat, as stipulated in the Secretary-General's bulletin on the organization of the Secretariat of the United Nations;[260]

19. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to maintain the mandate of Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace and to provide guidance on the institutional future of sport for development and peace within the United Nations system;

20. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those committed to promoting sport as a tool for development and peace, and other stakeholders, such as international sports federations, organizers of mega sport events, sports clubs and leagues, foundations and the private sector, especially businesses involved in the sports sector, to provide voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace and to enter into innovative partnerships with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, which is funded exclusively through voluntary contributions, in order to sustain the mandate of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, ensure the continuous activities of the Office, including its support to policy and programme developments in the field of sport for development and peace, and provide project implementation funding for the Office and the United Nations system at large;

21. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, which met for its fourth plenary session on 1 July 2014, and its thematic working groups on sport and persons with disabilities, sport and peace, sport and gender, sport and health and sport and child and youth development, and invites Member States and other relevant stakeholders, as observers, to join and support the International Working Group;

22. *Encourages* the United Nations system and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group to further strengthen their cooperation in this regard;

23. *Encourages* Member States to join and participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, an informal group of permanent missions to the United Nations in New York and Geneva serving as a platform to promote dialogue and facilitate and encourage the integration of sport to support the achievement of the United Nations goals and objectives;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on specific initiatives aimed at ensuring more effective implementation of the Olympic Truce and progress made by Member States and the United Nations system, including activities and the functioning of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace, as well as other relevant stakeholders, towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, to provide a review of the contribution of sport to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Sport for development and peace".

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[259] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[260] ST/SGB/2015/3.

RESOLUTION 71/161

Adopted at the 64th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.42 and Add.1, sponsored by Andorra, Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lithuania, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

71/161. The new United Nations approach to cholera in Haiti

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/135 and 65/136 of 15 December 2010,

Expressing concern at the recurrent outbreaks of cholera in Haiti, which have affected nearly 800,000 people and caused over 9,000 deaths to date,

Deeply concerned that there has been an increase in the number of persons affected by cases of cholera and other diarrhoeal diseases as a result of Hurricane Matthew, which struck Haiti on 4 October 2016, and about the continued vulnerability of Haitians as a result thereof,

Recognizing the considerable national, regional and international efforts deployed in the fight against cholera in Haiti since 2010, and acknowledging that, while important progress has been made in combating cholera, Haiti continues to face significant challenges,

Underscoring the need to address this prolonged public health crisis owing to its grave humanitarian, economic and social consequences, and stressing the importance of strengthening the Haitian national health institutions,

Welcoming the central role being played by the Government of Haiti, with support from the United Nations and other regional and international actors, in responding to the cholera epidemic, with a view to ultimately eliminating cholera in Haiti,

Underlining its strong commitment to responding to this protracted emergency in an effective and coordinated manner,

Recognizing that the United Nations has a moral responsibility to the victims of the cholera epidemic in Haiti, as well as to support Haiti in overcoming the epidemic and building sound water, sanitation and health systems,

Mindful of the impact of the cholera epidemic on the reputation of the United Nations in Haiti and globally,

1. *Welcomes* the new United Nations approach to cholera in Haiti as described in the report of the Secretary-General on a new approach to cholera in Haiti;[263]

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, relevant United Nations bodies and other international governmental and non-governmental partners to provide their full support to the new approach of the Secretary-General to cholera in Haiti, in particular to intensify their efforts to respond to and eliminate cholera and to address the suffering of its victims, including by providing material assistance and support to communities and those Haitians most directly affected by cholera;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a further report for consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed seventy-first session.

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[263] A/71/620.

RESOLUTION 71/248

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, by a recorded vote of 105 to 15, with 52 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.48 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen

* *In favour*: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam

71/248. International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Human Rights Council, in particular Human Rights Council resolution S-17/1 of 23 August 2011 that established the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic,[262]

Welcoming the ongoing work carried out by the Commission of Inquiry, and recalling its reports and the recommendations contained therein,[263]

Expressing its appreciation for the work carried out by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism, and recalling its reports and the conclusions contained therein,[264]

Recognizing the work of Syrian and international civil society actors in documenting violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights law in the Syrian Arab Republic during the conflict,

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[262] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[263] See www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/IICISyria/Pages/Documentation.aspx.

[264] See S/2016/888, S/2016/738/Rev.1, S/2016/530 and S/2016/142, annex.

Noting with concern the impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

Recalling the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic,

Noting the repeated encouragement by the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner for Human Rights for the Security Council to refer the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic to the International Criminal Court,

1. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure accountability for crimes involving violations of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 through appropriate, fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level, and stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal to ensure justice for all victims and to contribute to the prevention of future violations;

2. *Stresses* the need for any political process aimed at resolving the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic to ensure credible and comprehensive accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses committed in the country in order to bring about reconciliation and sustainable peace;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate and prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and encourages other States to consider doing the same and to share relevant information to that end with other States;

4. *Decides* to establish the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 under the auspices of the United Nations to closely cooperate with the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses and to prepare files in order to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law standards, in national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have or may in the future have jurisdiction over these crimes, in accordance with international law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in this regard, to develop, within 20 working days of the adoption of the present resolution, the terms of reference of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism, with the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and also requests that the Secretary-General undertake, without delay, the steps, measures and arrangements necessary for the speedy establishment and full functioning of the Mechanism, initially funded by voluntary contributions, in coordination with the Commission of Inquiry and building on existing capacities, including recruiting or allocating impartial and experienced staff with relevant skills and expertise in accordance with the terms of reference;

6. *Calls upon* all States, all parties to the conflict as well as civil society to cooperate fully with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism and the Commission of Inquiry to effectively fulfil their respective mandates and, in particular, to provide them with any information and documentation they may possess, as well as any other forms of assistance pertaining to their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the United Nations system as a whole to fully cooperate with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism and to promptly respond to any request, including access to all information and documentation, and decides that the Mechanism shall closely cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry in all aspects of its work;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution within 45 days of its adoption, and decides to revisit the question of funding of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism as soon as possible.

RESOLUTION 71/249

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.43 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, sponsored by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Egypt, Eritrea, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Viet Nam

71/249. Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[265] in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Recalling its resolution 70/19 of 3 December 2015 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace and its other related resolutions,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 67/104 of 17 December 2012, it proclaimed the period 2013–2022 the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures and invited the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in this context to be the lead agency in the United Nations system,

Encouraging, in this regard, activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance peace and social stability, respect for diversity and mutual respect and to create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

Recalling its resolution 69/312 of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in which it reaffirmed its support for the Alliance and reiterated the valuable role of the Alliance in promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs,

Recalling also its resolutions 70/109 of 10 December 2015 on a world against violence and violent extremism and 70/291 of 1 July 2016 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review,

Recalling further its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998, by which it declared 2001 the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and expressed its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

Recalling its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that interreligious and intercultural dialogue can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Noting that interreligious and intercultural dialogue has made significant contributions to mutual understanding, tolerance and respect, as well as to the promotion of a culture of peace and an improvement of overall relations among people from different cultural and religious backgrounds and among nations,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are sources of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

Noting the Unite for Heritage campaign launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in March 2015, which aims to celebrate and safeguard cultural heritage and diversity around the world,

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[265] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

Bearing in mind that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities contributes towards peace, mutual understanding and friendship among people of different cultures and nations and that these diversities should be made part of intercultural and interreligious dialogue efforts, as appropriate,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[266] and acknowledging that the Agenda includes the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,

Noting the various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels for enhancing interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation, which are mutually reinforcing and interrelated,

Acknowledging that relevant components of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (the Belt and Road) Initiative strengthen people-to-people bonds and promote mutual understanding and cooperation,

Noting the fifth Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Astana in June 2015,

Welcoming the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, in promoting intercultural dialogue,

Welcoming also the declaration of the High-level Conference on Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue adopted by the Asia-Europe Meeting, with the theme "Harmony between civilizations as a prerequisite for sustainable development", held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, on 3 and 4 July 2014,

Welcoming further the work of the Anna Lindh Foundation and the ongoing work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna,

Taking note of the declaration of the Forum on the Role of Religious Leaders in Preventing Incitement that could Lead to Atrocity Crimes, held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, and the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the basis of Religion or Belief,

Noting the international symposium launching the African initiative on education for peace and development through interreligious and intercultural dialogue, held in Cotonou, Benin, in May 2015,

Welcoming the second World Nomad Games, held in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, from 3 to 10 September 2016, and recognizing the importance that it places on intercultural dialogue and its valuable contribution to promoting social cohesion, peace and development,

Acknowledging the positive contribution of individuals and of relevant civil society organizations to the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and the culture of peace,

Underlining the importance of education, including education on culture, peace, tolerance, mutual understanding and human rights, in promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue, respect for diversity and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recognizing the contributions of the media and of new information and communications technology to promoting peoples' understanding of different cultures and religions, including through the promotion of dialogue,

Reaffirming the importance of sustaining the process of engaging all stakeholders, including young men and women as relevant actors, in interreligious and intercultural dialogue within the appropriate initiatives at various levels, which aims to challenge prejudices, improve mutual understanding and foster cooperation,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace and the contribution that interreligious and intercultural dialogue among religious groups and individuals, in particular religious leaders, can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all mankind,

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[266] Resolution 70/1.

Noting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization conference on the theme "Youth and the Internet: fighting radicalization and extremism", held in Paris in June 2015,

Noting also the Appeal for Peace, signed by religious leaders during the World Day of Prayer for Peace, held in Assisi, Italy, on 20 September 2016,

1. *Reaffirms* that mutual understanding and interreligious and intercultural dialogue constitute important dimensions of the dialogue among civilizations and of the culture of peace;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of a culture of peace and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace;[267]

3. *Recognizes* the importance of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and its valuable contribution to promoting social cohesion, peace and development, and calls upon Member States to consider, as appropriate and where applicable, interreligious and intercultural dialogue as an important tool in efforts aimed at achieving peace and social stability and the full realization of internationally agreed development goals;

4. *Also recognizes* the efforts by relevant stakeholders to foster peaceful and harmonious coexistence within societies by promoting respect for religious and cultural diversity, including by engendering sustained and robust interaction among various segments of society;

5. *Further recognizes* the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on intercultural dialogue and its contribution to interreligious dialogue, as well as its activities related to the culture of peace and non-violence and its focus on concrete actions at the global, regional and subregional levels;

6. *Encourages* Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further consider and carry out activities in support of the Action Plan for the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2013–2022), adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[268] which provides a framework for enhancing interreligious and intercultural dialogue and promoting tolerance and mutual understanding, while placing emphasis on the involvement of women and youth in such dialogue;

7. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

8. *Reaffirms* the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for and observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[269] and other instruments relating to human rights and international law, the universal nature of these rights and freedoms being beyond question;

9. *Welcomes* the Baku Declaration, adopted at the Seventh Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, with the theme "Living together in inclusive societies: a challenge and a goal", held in Baku from 25 to 27 April 2016, and encourages relevant stakeholders to continue their efforts to promote mutual understanding among different civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs;

10. *Underlines* the importance of moderation as a value within societies for countering extremism in all its aspects and for further contributing to the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, and encourages efforts, as appropriate, to enable voices of moderation to work together in order to build a more secure, inclusive and peaceful world;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts by the media to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, encourages the further promotion of dialogue among the media from all cultures and civilizations, emphasizes that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, and reaffirms that the exercise of this right carries with it special duties and responsibilities and may therefore be subject to certain restrictions, but that these can be only such as are provided by law and necessary for respect of the rights or reputations of others, protection of national security or of public order, or of public health or morals;

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[267] A/71/407.

[268] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Executive Board decision 194 EX/10.

12. *Also welcomes* the efforts to use information and communications technology, including the Internet, to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, including through the Interfaith Dialogue e-Portal established following the Special Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Meeting on Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace and Development, held in Manila in 2010, as well as the Peace and Dialogue e-Portal of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and encourages relevant stakeholders to utilize the opportunity to disseminate their best practices and experiences on interreligious and intercultural dialogue by contributing to the Interfaith Dialogue e-Portal and to the Peace and Dialogue e-Portal;

13. *Encourages* Member States to consider, as and where appropriate, initiatives that identify areas for practical action in all sectors and levels of society for the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, tolerance, understanding and cooperation, inter alia, the ideas suggested during the High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace, held in New York in October 2007, including the idea of an enhanced process of dialogue among world religions, as well as the ideas suggested during the third High Panel on Peace and Dialogue among Cultures, held in Paris in November 2012;

14. *Acknowledges* the active engagement of the United Nations system with faith-based and cultural organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations in the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue and in bringing together people of different cultures, religions, faiths or beliefs to discuss common issues and objectives;

15. *Also acknowledges* the important role of civil society, including academia and volunteer groups, in fostering interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and encourages support for practical measures that mobilize civil society, including building capacities, opportunities and frameworks for cooperation;

16. *Invites* Member States to further promote reconciliation to help to ensure durable peace and sustained development, including by working with faith leaders and communities and through reconciliatory measures and acts of service and by encouraging forgiveness and compassion among individuals;

17. *Recognizes* that the Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat plays a valuable role as focal point within the Secretariat on the issue, and encourages it to continue to interact and coordinate with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and coordinate their contribution to the intergovernmental process aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/250

Adopted at the 67th plenary meeting, on 22 December 2016, by a recorded vote of 145 to none, with no abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.46 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

Against: None

Abstaining: None

71/250. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/14 of 11 November 2014 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

Having received the annual report for 2014 and the draft report for 2015 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[269]

1. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2014 and the draft report for 2015 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted on its behalf by its Director General;[269]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons with regard to the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;[270]

3. *Welcomes* the effective and ongoing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as demonstrated through, inter alia, the work of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations, which was established pursuant to Security Council resolution 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015 and extended for one year pursuant to Council resolution 2319 (2016) of 17 November 2016;

4. *Takes note* of Security Council resolution 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, by which the Council noted the first, second and third reports of the fact-finding mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,[271] which was mandated to establish the facts surrounding allegations of the use of toxic chemicals for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic;

5. *Welcomes* decision EC-M-52/Dec.1 of 20 July 2016 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on the destruction of Libya's remaining chemical weapons, which was endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 2298 (2016) of 22 July 2016, and also welcomes the progress made in the implementation of this decision, as reported by the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to the Security Council in his report to the Secretary-General dated 8 November 2016;[272]

6. *Also welcomes* the establishment by the Executive Council of an open-ended working group on the future priorities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, pursuant to its decision of 14 July 2016, as an informal mechanism, with a view to supplying holistic, coherent, forward-looking and action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention at its fourth special session, to be held in 2018;

7. *Further welcomes* the Declaration on the Occasion of the Centennial Commemoration of the First Large-Scale Use of Chemical Weapons at Ieper, which was adopted in 2015 by the States parties to the Convention on the occasion of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the first large-scale use of chemical weapons in Ieper, Belgium, which served to honour the memory of all victims of chemical warfare, as well as to rededicate collective efforts to rid the world of chemical weapons;

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[269] See A/71/207.

[270] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[271] See S/2015/138.

[272] See S/2016/943.

8. *Welcomes* the preparations being undertaken by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to mark the twentieth anniversary of the Organization, in April 2017;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons".

RESOLUTION 71/251

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.52, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

71/251. Establishment of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[273] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[274] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011,

Reaffirming the importance of improving the least developed countries' scientific research and innovation base, promoting networking among researchers and research institutions and helping the least developed countries to access and utilize critical and appropriate technologies, building upon bilateral initiatives and coordinated support by multilateral institutions, including the relevant entities of the United Nations system, such as the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and the private sector,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, in which the governing council of the technology bank was invited to draft a legal charter to be adopted by the General Assembly before the end of 2016,[275]

1. *Decides* to establish the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries and to adopt its Charter, as set out in the note by the Secretary-General;[276]

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[273] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[274] Ibid., chap. II.

[275] Resolution 70/294, annex, para. 99.

[276] A/71/363.

2. *Affirms* that, as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly, the Technology Bank will be guided by the Charter of the United Nations and its purposes and principles;

3. *Reaffirms its acceptance* of the offer by Turkey to host the Technology Bank, and welcomes the pledge made by the Government of Turkey to the trust fund for the operationalization of the Technology Bank;

4. *Invites* Member States and other stakeholders, including the private sector and foundations, to provide voluntary funding to the trust fund of the Technology Bank;

5. *Urges* the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations to support, in a coordinated manner, the operationalization of the Technology Bank and its activities while respecting the relevant provisions of the intellectual property rights-related agreements;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report, within existing resources, to inform the General Assembly about the results achieved by the Technology Bank after the first three years of operation, and decides to review, as appropriate, the arrangements required for the effective functioning of the Technology Bank on that basis.

RESOLUTION 71/252

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.47 and Add.1, sponsored by Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

71/252. Follow-up to the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration[277] and Programme of Action[278] on a Culture of Peace, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007, 63/113 of 5 December 2008, 64/80 of 7 December 2009, 65/11 of 23 November 2010, 66/116 of 12 December 2011, 67/106 of 17 December 2012, 68/125 of 18 December 2013, 69/139 of 15 December 2014 and 70/20 of 3 December 2015, adopted under its agenda item entitled "Culture of peace",

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[277] Resolution 53/243 A.

[278] Resolution 53/243 B.

Recalling also its resolutions 70/109 of 10 December 2015 on a world against violence and violent extremism and 70/291 of 1 July 2016 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[279] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly,[280]

Welcoming the observance of 10 December as Human Rights Day,[281] 9 December as the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of This Crime,[282] and 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence,[283] as proclaimed by the United Nations,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

Recognizing also the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing dialogue and negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[284] which provides an overview of the activities that have been carried out by the main United Nations entities working in the areas of a culture of peace and interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace since the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolutions 70/19 of 3 December 2015 and 70/20,

Recalling the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism, in order to foster and enrich a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

Recalling also the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 30 April as International Jazz Day, which aims to develop and increase intercultural exchanges and understanding between cultures for the purpose of mutual comprehension, tolerance and the promotion of a culture of peace,

Welcoming the efforts of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations, in particular through various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels, including relevant efforts affiliated with the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (the Belt and Road),

Expressing its appreciation for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and the private sector,

Welcoming the successful holding on 1 September 2016 of the General Assembly High-level Forum on the Culture of Peace, convened by the President of the Assembly, and the greater participation and increased interest, in particular of Member States, in making country statements during its plenary session and the wide-ranging partnership and inclusive collaboration among Member States, international organizations and civil society, as evidenced at the Forum, while taking note of the President's summary of the deliberations during the day-long Forum focusing on the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action,

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[279] Resolution 55/2.

[280] Resolution 60/1.

[281] Resolution 423 (V).

[282] Resolution 69/323.

[283] Resolution 61/271.

[284] A/71/407.

Recognizing the role of women and youth, as well as the contribution of children, in advancing a culture of peace, and in particular the importance of greater involvement of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in activities promoting a culture of peace, including in post-conflict situations,

Welcoming the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-sixth session of a programme of action for a culture of peace and non-violence, and noting that the objectives of that programme of action are in line with the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly,

Recalling the Yamoussoukro Declaration on Peace in the Minds of Men, and acknowledging the observance in 2014 of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its adoption,

Noting the initiatives of civil society, in collaboration with Governments, to strengthen civilian capacities to enhance the physical safety of vulnerable populations under threat of violence and to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes,

Encouraging the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing a culture of peace as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[278] is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and calls upon all concerned to renew their attention to this objective;

2. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the promotion of a culture of peace in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[285]

3. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

4. *Invites* the entities of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to integrate, as appropriate, the eight action areas of the Programme of Action into their programmes of activities, focusing on promoting a culture of peace and non-violence at the national, regional and international levels;

5. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for strengthening efforts to mobilize all relevant stakeholders within and outside the United Nations system in support of a culture of peace, and invites the Organization to continue to enhance communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website;

6. *Commends* the practical initiatives and actions by relevant United Nations bodies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the University for Peace, as well as their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts, and in this context notes with appreciation the global launch of the United Nations Children's Fund Early Childhood Peace Consortium in September 2013 and its activities, including those for vulnerable children;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to continue to promote peacebuilding activities and to advance a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

8. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education in children's schools that builds a culture of peace, including lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active and global citizenship and human rights;

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[285] Resolution 70/1.

9. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

10. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes;

11. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts to promote a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, in line with the Declaration[277] and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;

12. *Invites* Member States, all parts of the United Nations system and civil society organizations to accord increasing attention to their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with its resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001, and of the International Day of Non-Violence on 2 October, in accordance with its resolution 61/271 of 15 June 2007;

13. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to consider convening a high-level forum, as appropriate and within existing resources, devoted to the implementation of the Programme of Action on the occasion of the anniversary of its adoption, on or around 13 September, and requests the Secretariat to support its effective organization within their respective mandates and existing resources;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, in consultation with the Member States and taking into account the observations of civil society organizations, to explore mechanisms and strategies, in particular strategies in the sphere of information and communications technology, for the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action and to initiate outreach efforts to increase global awareness of the Programme of Action and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report, within existing resources, on actions taken by Member States, on the basis of information provided by them, and those taken system-wide by all concerned entities of the United Nations to implement the present resolution and on heightened activities by the Organization and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action and to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

RESOLUTION 71/253

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

71/253. Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/264 of 13 May 2016 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[286] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[286] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Recognizing the International Criminal Court as an independent permanent judicial institution and, in this regard, that the United Nations and the Court respect each other's status and mandate,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Convinced that ending impunity is essential for coming to terms with any past crimes committed and preventing such crimes in the future,

Acknowledging the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, and which the Prosecutor of the Court has initiated *proprio motu*, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remain essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[287]

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution, with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[288] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which enables, inter alia, facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Noting the need for funding of expenses related to investigations or prosecutions of the International Criminal Court, including in connection with situations referred to the Court by the Security Council,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Stressing the importance that the Rome Statute accords to the rights and needs of victims, in particular their right to participate in judicial proceedings and to claim reparations, and emphasizing the importance of informing and involving victims and affected communities in order to give effect to the mandate of the International Criminal Court towards victims,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2015/16;[289]

2. *Also welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[286] and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Further welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that are parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[290] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;

4. *Notes* the recent ratifications and acceptances of the amendments adopted at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010;

5. *Underlines*, bearing in mind that in accordance with the Rome Statute the International Criminal Court is complementary to national criminal jurisdictions, that States need to adopt appropriate measures within

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[287] A/58/874 and Add.1.

[288] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[289] A/71/342.

[290] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

their national legal systems for those crimes for which they are required under international law to exercise their responsibility to investigate and prosecute;

6. *Encourages* further efforts by the United Nations, other international and regional organizations and States, as well as civil society, to appropriately assist States, upon their request, in strengthening their domestic capacity to investigate and prosecute crimes, and in this regard underlines the importance of national ownership;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and judicial assistance in conducting effective investigations and prosecutions;

8. *Acknowledges* the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, promote the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights, achieve sustainable peace and further the development of nations, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General in promoting cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[287] and also notes in this regard that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat has a specific role within the United Nations;

12. *Recalls* article 3 of the Relationship Agreement, according to which, with a view to facilitating the effective discharge of their respective responsibilities, the United Nations and the International Criminal Court shall cooperate closely, whenever appropriate, with each other and consult each other on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Relationship Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, and shall respect each other's status and mandate,[291] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to include information relevant to the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

13. *Recalls* the guidance issued by the Secretary-General on contacts with persons who are the subject of arrest warrants or summonses issued by the International Criminal Court,[292] and in this regard takes note of the information included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement;[293]

14. *Recalls* the Relationship Agreement, and notes that expenses related to investigations or prosecutions incurred by the International Criminal Court in connection with situations referred by the Security Council or otherwise continue to be borne exclusively by States parties to the Rome Statute;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of cooperation with States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;

16. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

17. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, if the acceptance of a State which is not a party to the Rome Statute is required under article 12, paragraph 2, of the Rome Statute, that State may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to the crime in question;

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[291] Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Relationship Agreement.

[292] A/67/828-S/2013/210, annex.

[293] A/71/346.

18. *Urges* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations, and invites all other States to consider doing the same, as appropriate;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of all aspects of the Relationship Agreement, which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of that Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to continue to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

20. *Encourages* further dialogue between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, and welcomes in this regard the increased interaction of the Security Council with the Court under various formats, including the holding of open debates on peace and justice and working methods, with a special focus on the role of the Court;

21. *Continues to welcome* the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 February 2013,[294] in which the Council reiterated its previous call regarding the importance of State cooperation with the International Criminal Court, in accordance with the respective obligations of States, and expressed its commitment to effective follow-up of Council decisions in this regard;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work undertaken by the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

23. *Encourages* States to contribute to the Trust Fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

24. *Recalls* that, at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which was convened and opened by the Secretary-General, States parties reaffirmed their commitment to the Rome Statute and its full implementation, as well as its universality and integrity, and that the Review Conference undertook a stocktaking exercise of international criminal justice, considering the impact of the Rome Statute on victims and affected communities, peace and justice, complementarity and cooperation, called for the strengthening of the enforcement of sentences, adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to expand the jurisdiction of the Court to cover three additional war crimes when committed in armed conflicts not of an international character, and adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to define the crime of aggression and to establish conditions under which the Court could exercise jurisdiction with respect to that crime;

25. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization;[295]

26. *Takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court at its fifteenth session, while recalling that, according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its sixteenth session in New York, looks forward to the sixteenth session, which is to be held from 4 to 14 December 2017, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

27. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assembly of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the participation of the least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that Trust Fund thus far;

28. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, if it deems it appropriate, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2016/17, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

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[294] S/PRST/2013/2; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013* (S/INF/68).

[295] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/71/1).

RESOLUTION 71/254

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Belgium, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Finland, Georgia, Greece, India, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Spain

71/254. Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[296] through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the development and implementation of a 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union,

Recalling also the adoption of the framework for the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union set out in the declaration on enhancing United Nations-African Union cooperation, signed in Addis Ababa on 16 November 2006 by the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission,[297] which highlights the key areas for cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations,

Noting that the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union has since been in effect and has provided an important context for focused United Nations support to the capacity-building efforts of the African Union,

Reaffirming the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs on 22 September 2008,[298]

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recognizing the need to enhance the strategic relationship between the United Nations and the African Union, as a basis for a more effective partnership embodying the principles of mutual respect when addressing issues of mutual concern,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[299] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[300] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[296] Resolution 60/1.

[297] A/61/630, annex.

[298] Resolution 63/1.

[299] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[300] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recalling that significant challenges remain in achieving sustainable development in Africa, as emphasized in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[301] including the importance of fulfilling all commitments to advance action in areas critical to Africa's sustainable development,

Welcoming the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities,

Welcoming also the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union of the first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) of the African Union Agenda 2063, which outlines key African flagship projects, fast-track programmes, priority areas, specific targets and African strategies and policy measures at all levels to support its implementation,

Acknowledging the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, both of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and offer an important opportunity for Africa to achieve inclusive and transformative development with equity, and underscoring in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda,

Acknowledging also that the implementation of Agenda 2063 will be aligned, as appropriate, with the principles and goals of the 2030 Agenda, and calling upon the United Nations to continue discussions on the Framework for a Renewed Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027, based on Agenda 2063,

1. *Takes note* of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.587 (XXV) of 15 June 2015 of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, in which they requested that the United Nations take the necessary measures to further enhance its cooperation with the African Union, especially in the context of the implementation of the transformative Agenda 2063, as well as of the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027 as the overall platform for United Nations-African Union cooperation, and also takes note of the request of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union that the General Assembly of the United Nations adopt a resolution in support of the Framework;

2. *Commends* all the stakeholders in the partnership, namely, United Nations and African Union entities, for the significant efforts deployed in the implementation of the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union;

3. *Welcomes* the United Nations-African Union joint decision during the fifteenth session of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, held in Abuja in March 2014, to formulate a successor programme to the 2006 United Nations-African Union 10-year capacity-building programme as an important contribution towards conflict prevention and conflict resolution on the African continent that will also reflect the support of the United Nations to Agenda 2063, and reiterates the importance of greater engagement with the regional economic communities in formulating the successor programme;

4. *Also welcomes* the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in June 2015, as the successor programme to the 2006 United Nations-African Union 10-year capacity-building programme that is anchored in Agenda 2063;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting the African Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023);

6. *Calls upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system, through the Regional Coordination Mechanism, to align their programmes and activities with the priorities enshrined in the Framework, as appropriate;

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[301] Resolution 66/288, annex.

7. *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism to monitor and coordinate the implementation of the Framework as the successor programme to the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to provide, as appropriate, predictable support for full, effective and efficient implementation of the Framework;

9. *Calls upon* Africa's bilateral and multilateral partners and the international community at large to lend their full support to the implementation of the Framework in concrete and enabling ways;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, working in collaboration, to monitor the progress made in the implementation of the Framework, and requests the Secretary-General to report on a biennial basis to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Framework within the context of his report on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union.

RESOLUTION 71/255

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.44/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

71/255. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling the aims and purposes of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967,[302] in particular the maintenance of close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes,

Noting the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which came into force on 15 December 2008,[303] particularly on upholding the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Noting with satisfaction that the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling all previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,[304]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[305]

Welcoming the participation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the high-level meetings between the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the collaboration between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to promote dialogue and cooperation among regional organizations in Asia and the Pacific,

Welcoming also the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as an observer in the General Assembly,

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[302] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1331, No. 22341.

[303] Ibid., vol. 2624, No. 46745.

[304] Resolutions 57/35, 59/5, 61/46, 63/35, 65/235, 67/110 and 69/110.

[305] A/71/160-S/2016/621, sect. II.

Recalling the First to Seventh Summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations and the commitment of the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to further deepen the comprehensive partnership between the two organizations,

Welcoming the adoption of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations 2025: Forging Ahead Together and its three Community Blueprints, namely the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Political-Security Community Blueprint 2025, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Economic Community Blueprint 2025 and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint 2025, at the twenty-seventh Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit, held in Kuala Lumpur in November 2015,

Welcoming also the adoption of the Vientiane Declaration on the Adoption of the Initiative for Association of Southeast Asian Nations Integration Work Plan III and the Vientiane Declaration on the Adoption of the Master Plan on Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025 at the twenty-eighth Association of Southeast Asian Nations Summit, held in Vientiane in September 2016,

Recognizing the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to strengthen its institutions, and in this regard welcoming the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community on 31 December 2015,

Looking forward to the fiftieth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2017, which coincides with the chairmanship of the Philippines under the theme "Partnering for change, engaging the world",

1. *Welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, which will ensure lasting peace and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region;

2. *Also welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the Bali Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) Plan of Action (2013–2017), which will enhance the role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in addressing global challenges and seizing the opportunities of the twenty-first century;

3. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to develop the partnership between the two organizations, as described in the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 27 September 2007;

4. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to further intensify and strengthen the level of and framework for cooperation between the two organizations through the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, issued at the Fourth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations on 19 November 2011 in Bali, and welcomes the adoption of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2016–2020);

5. *Encourages* the United Nations, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other relevant United Nations agencies, to continue to work closely with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[306] and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, to promote complementarities between the two to ensure that regional integration efforts in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations reinforce the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and vice versa, through developing a regional road map, as well as other concrete activities and projects under the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership;

6. *Commends* the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations for their efforts to hold annual meetings during the regular sessions of the General Assembly, with a view to further enhancing the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations partnership, including by reviewing, overseeing and directing the implementation of the present resolution;

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[306] Resolution 70/1.

7. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to continue regular senior officials' meetings, ministerial meetings and summits, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Eighth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations on 7 September 2016 in Vientiane;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations to provide strengthened support, including through exchanges of relevant experiences, information, best practices and lessons learned and capacity-building, based on mutual respect, for the relevant Association of Southeast Asian Nations mechanisms and Association of Southeast Asian Nations-led arrangements;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation and the peaceful settlement of disputes to promote peace, stability and prosperity, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and international law;

10. *Supports* the convening of workshops and seminars between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to promote dialogue on regional and global security issues, including conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, based on mutual trust, shared interests and mutual respect;

11. *Encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to exchange expertise, best practices, lessons learned and experiences in countering terrorism and radicalization to terrorism and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and reaffirms the positive initiative of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on the Global Movement of Moderates in shaping global development and advancing global peace, particularly in efforts to fight against violent extremism and radicalization to terrorism;

12. *Also encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the field of human rights, particularly through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, based on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[307] and other international human rights instruments to which all the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are parties;

13. *Acknowledges* the contribution of maritime cooperation, including maritime security cooperation, to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations community-building, such as in the form of exchange of relevant experiences, information, best practices and lessons learned, to further promote the rule of law and implementation of relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[308] and other international instruments, and underscores the need to further strengthen such cooperation in order to address related issues and challenges;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of regional integration and enhancement of connectivity in the South-East Asian region and their potential contribution to regional and global peace, prosperity and sustainable development, and in this regard encourages cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to narrow the development gap within and between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations member States;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the implementation of the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;[309]

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[307] Resolution 217 A (III).

[308] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[309] Resolution 66/2, annex.

16. *Encourages* cooperation and collaborative efforts between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on addressing environmental sustainability and climate change, including through the development of a joint action plan;

17. *Encourages* closer cooperation on disaster management between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in order to ensure an effective response to and management of natural disasters, through the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management 2016–2020, and to enhance the capacity of and technical support to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management;

18. *Encourages* the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to explore measures to further the effective and timely implementation of joint activities under the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership;

19. *Encourages* the conduct of the secretariat-to-secretariat annual review on the implementation of the comprehensive partnership to identify challenges and discuss practical modalities for the two secretariats to effectively contribute to enhancing Association of Southeast Asian Nations and United Nations cooperation;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations".

RESOLUTION 71/256

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.23, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

71/256. New Urban Agenda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/216 of 21 December 2012, in which it decided to convene the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), as well as its resolutions 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014 and 70/210 of 22 December 2015,

1. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government and the people of Ecuador for hosting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) from 17 to 20 October 2016 and for providing all the necessary support;

2. *Endorses* the New Urban Agenda adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), which is contained in the annex to the present resolution.

Annex

New Urban Agenda

Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All

1. We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and High Representatives, have gathered at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) from 17 to 20 October 2016 in Quito, with the participation of subnational and local governments, parliamentarians, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector, professionals and practitioners, the scientific and academic community, and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt a New Urban Agenda.

2. By 2050, the world's urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the twenty-first century's most transformative trends. Populations, economic activities, social and cultural interactions, as well as environmental and humanitarian impacts, are increasingly concentrated in cities, and this poses massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety and natural resources, among others.

3. Since the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976 and in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1996, and the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000, we have seen improvements in the quality of life of millions of urban inhabitants, including slum and informal-settlement dwellers. However, the persistence of multiple forms of poverty, growing inequalities and environmental degradation remain among the major obstacles to sustainable development worldwide, with social and economic exclusion and spatial segregation often an irrefutable reality in cities and human settlements.

4. We are still far from adequately addressing these and other existing and emerging challenges, and there is a need to take advantage of the opportunities presented by urbanization as an engine of sustained and inclusive economic growth, social and cultural development, and environmental protection, and of its potential contributions to the achievement of transformative and sustainable development.

5. By readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions; reduce inequalities; promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth; achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development; improve human health and well-being; foster resilience; and protect the environment.

6. We take full account of the milestone achievements of the year 2015, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[310] including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[311] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[312] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[313] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[314] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[315] and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020.[316] We also take account of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[317] the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[318] the Beijing Platform for Action,[319] the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the follow-up to these conferences.

7. While recognizing that it did not have an intergovernmental agreed outcome, we take note of the World Humanitarian Summit held in May 2016 in Istanbul.

8. We acknowledge the contributions of national Governments, as well as the contributions of subnational and local governments, in the definition of the New Urban Agenda, and take note of the second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

9. The New Urban Agenda reaffirms our global commitment to sustainable urban development as a critical step for realizing sustainable development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant actors. The implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated manner, and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including Goal 11 of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

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[310] Resolution 70/1.

[311] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[312] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[313] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[314] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[315] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[316] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[317] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[318] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[319] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

10. The New Urban Agenda acknowledges that culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment for humankind and provide an important contribution to the sustainable development of cities, human settlements and citizens, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives. The New Urban Agenda further recognizes that culture should be taken into account in the promotion and implementation of new sustainable consumption and production patterns that contribute to the responsible use of resources and address the adverse impact of climate change.

Our shared vision

11. We share a vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind, are able to inhabit and produce just, safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements to foster prosperity and quality of life for all. We note the efforts of some national and local governments to enshrine this vision, referred to as "right to the city", in their legislation, political declarations and charters.

12. We aim to achieve cities and human settlements where all persons are able to enjoy equal rights and opportunities, as well as their fundamental freedoms, guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law. In this regard, the New Urban Agenda is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[320] international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration[321] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome.[322] It is informed by other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development.[323]

13. We envisage cities and human settlements that:

(*a*) Fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, universal access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, as well as equal access for all to public goods and quality services in areas such as food security and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, mobility and transportation, energy, air quality and livelihoods;

(*b*) Are participatory, promote civic engagement, engender a sense of belonging and ownership among all their inhabitants, prioritize safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces that are friendly for families, enhance social and intergenerational interactions, cultural expressions and political participation, as appropriate, and foster social cohesion, inclusion and safety in peaceful and pluralistic societies, where the needs of all inhabitants are met, recognizing the specific needs of those in vulnerable situations;

(*c*) Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making, by ensuring decent work and equal pay for equal work, or work of equal value, for all women and by preventing and eliminating all forms of discrimination, violence and harassment against women and girls in private and public spaces;

(*d*) Meet the challenges and opportunities of present and future sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, leveraging urbanization for structural transformation, high productivity, value-added activities and resource efficiency, harnessing local economies and taking note of the contribution of the informal economy while supporting a sustainable transition to the formal economy;

(*e*) Fulfil their territorial functions across administrative boundaries and act as hubs and drivers for balanced, sustainable and integrated urban and territorial development at all levels;

(*f*) Promote age- and gender-responsive planning and investment for sustainable, safe and accessible urban mobility for all and resource-efficient transport systems for passengers and freight, effectively linking people, places, goods, services and economic opportunities;

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[320] Resolution 217 A (III).

[321] Resolution 55/2.

[322] Resolution 60/1.

[323] Resolution 41/128, annex.

(*g*) Adopt and implement disaster risk reduction and management, reduce vulnerability, build resilience and responsiveness to natural and human-made hazards and foster mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;

(*h*) Protect, conserve, restore and promote their ecosystems, water, natural habitats and biodiversity, minimize their environmental impact and change to sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Our principles and commitments

14. To achieve our vision, we resolve to adopt a New Urban Agenda guided by the following interlinked principles:

(*a*) Leave no one behind, by ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including the eradication of extreme poverty, by ensuring equal rights and opportunities, socioeconomic and cultural diversity, and integration in the urban space, by enhancing liveability, education, food security and nutrition, health and well-being, including by ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, by promoting safety and eliminating discrimination and all forms of violence, by ensuring public participation – providing safe and equal access for all, and by providing equal access for all to physical and social infrastructure and basic services, as well as adequate and affordable housing;

(*b*) Ensure sustainable and inclusive urban economies by leveraging the agglomeration benefits of well-planned urbanization, including high productivity, competitiveness and innovation, by promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, by ensuring the creation of decent jobs and equal access for all to economic and productive resources and opportunities and by preventing land speculation, promoting secure land tenure and managing urban shrinking, where appropriate;

(*c*) Ensure environmental sustainability by promoting clean energy and sustainable use of land and resources in urban development, by protecting ecosystems and biodiversity, including adopting healthy lifestyles in harmony with nature, by promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, by building urban resilience, by reducing disaster risks and by mitigating and adapting to climate change.

15. We commit ourselves to working towards an urban paradigm shift for a New Urban Agenda that will:

(*a*) Readdress the way we plan, finance, develop, govern and manage cities and human settlements, recognizing sustainable urban and territorial development as essential to the achievement of sustainable development and prosperity for all;

(*b*) Recognize the leading role of national Governments, as appropriate, in the definition and implementation of inclusive and effective urban policies and legislation for sustainable urban development, and the equally important contributions of subnational and local governments, as well as civil society and other relevant stakeholders, in a transparent and accountable manner;

(*c*) Adopt sustainable, people-centred, age- and gender-responsive and integrated approaches to urban and territorial development by implementing policies, strategies, capacity development and actions at all levels, based on fundamental drivers of change, including:

(i) Developing and implementing urban policies at the appropriate level, including in local-national and multi-stakeholder partnerships, building integrated systems of cities and human settlements and promoting cooperation among all levels of government to enable the achievement of sustainable integrated urban development;

(ii) Strengthening urban governance, with sound institutions and mechanisms that empower and include urban stakeholders, as well as appropriate checks and balances, providing predictability and coherence in urban development plans to enable social inclusion, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and environmental protection;

(iii) Reinvigorating long-term and integrated urban and territorial planning and design in order to optimize the spatial dimension of the urban form and deliver the positive outcomes of urbanization;

(iv) Supporting effective, innovative and sustainable financing frameworks and instruments enabling strengthened municipal finance and local fiscal systems in order to create, sustain and share the value generated by sustainable urban development in an inclusive manner.

Call for action

16. While the specific circumstances of cities of all sizes, towns and villages vary, we affirm that the New Urban Agenda is universal in scope, participatory and people-centred, protects the planet and has a long-term vision, setting out priorities and actions at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels that Governments and other relevant stakeholders in every country can adopt based on their needs.

17. We will work to implement the New Urban Agenda in our own countries and at the regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities.

18. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7.

19. We acknowledge that in implementing the New Urban Agenda particular attention should be given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing all countries, in particular developing countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries. Special attention should also be given to countries in situations of conflict, as well as countries and territories under foreign occupation, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural and human-made disasters.

20. We recognize the need to give particular attention to addressing multiple forms of discrimination faced by, inter alia, women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples and local communities, slum and informal-settlement dwellers, homeless people, workers, smallholder farmers and fishers, refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status.

21. We urge all national, subnational and local governments, as well as all relevant stakeholders, in line with national policies and legislation, to revitalize, strengthen and create partnerships, enhancing coordination and cooperation to effectively implement the New Urban Agenda and realize our shared vision.

22. We adopt this New Urban Agenda as a collective vision and political commitment to promote and realize sustainable urban development, and as a historic opportunity to leverage the key role of cities and human settlements as drivers of sustainable development in an increasingly urbanized world.

Quito implementation plan for the New Urban Agenda

23. We resolve to implement the New Urban Agenda as a key instrument for enabling national, subnational and local governments and all relevant stakeholders to achieve sustainable urban development.

Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development

24. To fully harness the potential of sustainable urban development, we make the following transformative commitments through an urban paradigm shift grounded in the integrated and indivisible dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.

Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and ending poverty

25. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. We also recognize that growing inequality and the persistence of multiple dimensions of poverty, including the rising number of slum and informal-settlement dwellers, are affecting both developed and developing countries, and that the spatial organization, accessibility and design of urban space, as well as the infrastructure and basic services provision, together with development policies, can promote or hinder social cohesion, equality and inclusion.

26. We commit ourselves to urban and rural development that is people-centred, protects the planet, and is age- and gender-responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence, and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation. We further commit ourselves to promoting culture and respect for diversity and equality as key elements in the humanization of our cities and human settlements.

27. We reaffirm our pledge that no one will be left behind and commit ourselves to promoting equally the shared opportunities and benefits that urbanization can offer and that enable all inhabitants, whether living in formal or informal settlements, to lead decent, dignified and rewarding lives and to achieve their full human potential.

28. We commit ourselves to ensuring full respect for the human rights of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, and support their host cities in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances and recognizing that, although the movement of large populations into towns and cities poses a variety of challenges, it can also bring significant social, economic and cultural contributions to urban life. We further commit ourselves to strengthening synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels by ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration through planned and well-managed migration policies, and to supporting local authorities in establishing frameworks that enable the positive contribution of migrants to cities and strengthened urban-rural linkages.

29. We commit ourselves to strengthening the coordination role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and their collaboration with other public entities and non-governmental organizations in the provision of social and basic services for all, including generating investments in communities that are most vulnerable to disasters and those affected by recurrent and protracted humanitarian crises. We further commit ourselves to promoting adequate services, accommodation and opportunities for decent and productive work for crisis-affected persons in urban settings and to working with local communities and local governments to identify opportunities for engaging and developing local, durable and dignified solutions while ensuring that aid also flows to affected persons and host communities to prevent regression of their development.

30. We acknowledge the need for Governments and civil society to further support resilient urban services during armed conflicts. We also acknowledge the need to reaffirm full respect for international humanitarian law.

31. We commit ourselves to promoting national, subnational and local housing policies that support the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing for all as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, that address all forms of discrimination and violence and prevent arbitrary forced evictions and that focus on the needs of the homeless, persons in vulnerable situations, low-income groups and persons with disabilities, while enabling the participation and engagement of communities and relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of these policies, including supporting the social production of habitat, according to national legislation and standards.

32. We commit ourselves to promoting the development of integrated and age- and gender-responsive housing policies and approaches across all sectors, in particular the employment, education, health-care and social integration sectors, and at all levels of government – policies and approaches that incorporate the provision of adequate, affordable, accessible, resource-efficient, safe, resilient, well-connected and well-located housing, with special attention to the proximity factor and the strengthening of the spatial relationship with the rest of the urban fabric and the surrounding functional areas.

33. We commit ourselves to stimulating the supply of a variety of adequate housing options that are safe, affordable and accessible for members of different income groups of society, taking into consideration the socioeconomic and cultural integration of marginalized communities, homeless persons and those in vulnerable situations and preventing segregation. We will take positive measures to improve the living conditions of homeless people, with a view to facilitating their full participation in society, and to prevent and eliminate homelessness, as well as to combat and eliminate its criminalization.

34. We commit ourselves to promoting equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health care and family planning, education, culture, and information and communications technologies. We further commit ourselves to ensuring that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of women, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, and to those of others in vulnerable situations. In this regard, we encourage the elimination of legal, institutional, socioeconomic and physical barriers.

35. We commit ourselves to promoting, at the appropriate level of government, including subnational and local government, increased security of tenure for all, recognizing the plurality of tenure types, and to developing fit-for-

purpose and age-, gender- and environment-responsive solutions within the continuum of land and property rights, with particular attention to security of land tenure for women as key to their empowerment, including through effective administrative systems.

36. We commit ourselves to promoting appropriate measures in cities and human settlements that facilitate access for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, in both urban and rural areas.

37. We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, including streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes, squares, waterfront areas, gardens and parks, that are multifunctional areas for social interaction and inclusion, human health and well-being, economic exchange and cultural expression and dialogue among a wide diversity of people and cultures, and that are designed and managed to ensure human development and build peaceful, inclusive and participatory societies, as well as to promote living together, connectivity and social inclusion.

38. We commit ourselves to the sustainable leveraging of natural and cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, in cities and human settlements, as appropriate, through integrated urban and territorial policies and adequate investments at the national, subnational and local levels, to safeguard and promote cultural infrastructures and sites, museums, indigenous cultures and languages, as well as traditional knowledge and the arts, highlighting the role that these play in rehabilitating and revitalizing urban areas and in strengthening social participation and the exercise of citizenship.

39. We commit ourselves to promoting a safe, healthy, inclusive and secure environment in cities and human settlements enabling all to live, work and participate in urban life without fear of violence and intimidation, taking into consideration that women and girls, children and youth, and persons in vulnerable situations are often particularly affected. We will also work towards the elimination of harmful practices against women and girls, including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

40. We commit ourselves to embracing diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy. We also commit ourselves to taking steps to ensure that our local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies.

41. We commit ourselves to promoting institutional, political, legal and financial mechanisms in cities and human settlements to broaden inclusive platforms, in line with national policies, that allow meaningful participation in decision-making, planning and follow-up processes for all, as well as enhanced civil engagement and co-provision and co-production.

42. We support subnational and local governments, as appropriate, in fulfilling their key role in strengthening the interface among all relevant stakeholders, offering opportunities for dialogue, including through age- and gender-responsive approaches, and with particular attention to potential contributions from all segments of society, including men and women, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, without discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity or socioeconomic status.

Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all

43. We recognize that sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, with full and productive employment and decent work for all, is a key element of sustainable urban and territorial development and that cities and human settlements should be places of equal opportunities, allowing people to live healthy, productive, prosperous and fulfilling lives.

44. We recognize that urban form, infrastructure and building design are among the greatest drivers of cost and resource efficiencies, through the benefits of economy of scale and agglomeration and by fostering energy efficiency, renewable energy, resilience, productivity, environmental protection and sustainable growth in the urban economy.

45. We commit ourselves to developing vibrant, sustainable and inclusive urban economies, building on endogenous potential, competitive advantages, cultural heritage and local resources, as well as resource-efficient and resilient infrastructure, promoting sustainable and inclusive industrial development and sustainable consumption and production patterns and fostering an enabling environment for businesses and innovation, as well as livelihoods.

46. We commit ourselves to promoting the role of affordable and sustainable housing and housing finance, including social habitat production, in economic development, and the contribution of the sector to stimulating productivity in other economic sectors, recognizing that housing enhances capital formation, income, employment generation and savings and can contribute to driving sustainable and inclusive economic transformation at the national, subnational and local levels.

47. We commit ourselves to taking appropriate steps to strengthen national, subnational and local institutions to support local economic development, fostering integration, cooperation, coordination and dialogue across levels of government and functional areas and relevant stakeholders.

48. We encourage effective participation and collaboration among all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, the private sector and civil society, women, organizations representing youth, as well as those representing persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, professionals, academic institutions, trade unions, employers' organizations, migrant associations and cultural associations, in order to identify opportunities for urban economic development and identify and address existing and emerging challenges.

49. We commit ourselves to supporting territorial systems that integrate urban and rural functions into the national and subnational spatial frameworks and the systems of cities and human settlements, thus promoting sustainable management and use of natural resources and land, ensuring reliable supply and value chains that connect urban and rural supply and demand to foster equitable regional development across the urban-rural continuum and fill social, economic and territorial gaps.

50. We commit ourselves to encouraging urban-rural interactions and connectivity by strengthening sustainable transport and mobility, and technology and communications networks and infrastructure, underpinned by planning instruments based on an integrated urban and territorial approach, in order to maximize the potential of these sectors for enhanced productivity, social, economic and territorial cohesion, as well as safety and environmental sustainability. This should include connectivity between cities and their surroundings, peri-urban and rural areas, as well as greater land-sea connections, where appropriate.

51. We commit ourselves to promoting the development of urban spatial frameworks, including urban planning and design instruments that support sustainable management and use of natural resources and land, appropriate compactness and density, polycentrism and mixed uses, through infill or planned urban extension strategies, as applicable, to trigger economies of scale and agglomeration, strengthen food system planning and enhance resource efficiency, urban resilience and environmental sustainability.

52. We encourage spatial development strategies that take into account, as appropriate, the need to guide urban extension, prioritizing urban renewal by planning for the provision of accessible and well-connected infrastructure and services, sustainable population densities and compact design and integration of new neighbourhoods into the urban fabric, preventing urban sprawl and marginalization.

53. We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces as drivers of social and economic development, in order to sustainably leverage their potential to generate increased social and economic value, including property value, and to facilitate business and public and private investments and livelihood opportunities for all.

54. We commit ourselves to the generation and use of renewable and affordable energy and sustainable and efficient transport infrastructure and services, where possible, achieving the benefits of connectivity and reducing the financial, environmental and public health costs of inefficient mobility, congestion, air pollution, urban heat island effects and noise. We also commit ourselves to giving particular attention to the energy and transport needs of all people, particularly the poor and those living in informal settlements. We also note that reductions in renewable energy costs give cities and human settlements an effective tool to lower energy supply costs.

55. We commit ourselves to fostering healthy societies by promoting access to adequate, inclusive and quality public services, a clean environment, taking into consideration air quality guidelines, including those elaborated by

the World Health Organization, and social infrastructure and facilities, such as health-care services, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services to reduce newborn child and maternal mortality.

56. We commit ourselves to increasing economic productivity, as appropriate, by providing the labour force with access to income-earning opportunities, knowledge, skills and educational facilities that contribute to an innovative and competitive urban economy. We also commit ourselves to increasing economic productivity through the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work and livelihood opportunities in cities and human settlements.

57. We commit ourselves to promoting, as appropriate, full and productive employment, decent work for all and livelihood opportunities in cities and human settlements, with special attention to the needs and potential of women, youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, refugees, and internally displaced persons and migrants, particularly the poorest and those in vulnerable situations, and to promote non-discriminatory access to legal income-earning opportunities.

58. We commit ourselves to promoting an enabling, fair and responsible business environment based on the principles of environmental sustainability and inclusive prosperity, promoting investments, innovations and entrepreneurship. We also commit ourselves to addressing the challenges faced by local business communities by supporting micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives throughout the value chain, in particular businesses and enterprises in the social and solidarity economy, operating in both the formal and informal economies.

59. We commit ourselves to recognizing the contribution of the working poor in the informal economy, particularly women, including unpaid, domestic and migrant workers, to the urban economies, taking into account national circumstances. Their livelihoods, working conditions and income security, legal and social protection, access to skills, assets and other support services, and voice and representation should be enhanced. A progressive transition of workers and economic units to the formal economy will be developed by adopting a balanced approach, combining incentives and compliance measures, while promoting preservation and improvement of existing livelihoods. We will take into account specific national circumstances, legislation, policies, practices and priorities for the transition to the formal economy.

60. We commit ourselves to sustaining and supporting urban economies to transition progressively to higher productivity through high-value-added sectors, by promoting diversification, technological upgrading, research and innovation, including the creation of quality, decent and productive jobs, including through the promotion of cultural and creative industries, sustainable tourism, performing arts and heritage conservation activities, among others.

61. We commit ourselves to harnessing the urban demographic dividend, where applicable, and to promoting access for youth to education, skills development and employment to achieve increased productivity and shared prosperity in cities and human settlements. Girls and boys, young women and young men are key agents of change in creating a better future and when empowered they have great potential to advocate on behalf of themselves and their communities. Ensuring more and better opportunities for their meaningful participation will be essential for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

62. We commit ourselves to addressing the social, economic and spatial implications of ageing populations, where applicable, and harnessing the ageing factor as an opportunity for new decent jobs and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, while improving the quality of life of the urban population.

Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development

63. We recognize that cities and human settlements face unprecedented threats from unsustainable consumption and production patterns, loss of biodiversity, pressure on ecosystems, pollution, natural and human-made disasters, and climate change and its related risks, undermining the efforts to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions and to achieve sustainable development. Given cities' demographic trends and their central role in the global economy, in the mitigation and adaptation efforts related to climate change, and in the use of resources and ecosystems, the way they are planned, financed, developed, built, governed and managed has a direct impact on sustainability and resilience well beyond urban boundaries.

64. We also recognize that urban centres worldwide, especially in developing countries, often have characteristics that make them and their inhabitants especially vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and other

natural and human-made hazards, including earthquakes, extreme weather events, flooding, subsidence, storms, including dust and sand storms, heatwaves, water scarcity, droughts, water and air pollution, vector-borne diseases and sea level rise, which particularly affect coastal areas, delta regions and small island developing States, among others.

65. We commit ourselves to facilitating the sustainable management of natural resources in cities and human settlements in a manner that protects and improves the urban ecosystem and environmental services, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution and promotes disaster risk reduction and management, by supporting the development of disaster risk reduction strategies and periodical assessments of disaster risk caused by natural and human-made hazards, including standards for risk levels, while fostering sustainable economic development and protecting the well-being and quality of life of all persons through environmentally sound urban and territorial planning, infrastructure and basic services.

66. We commit ourselves to adopting a smart-city approach that makes use of opportunities from digitalization, clean energy and technologies, as well as innovative transport technologies, thus providing options for inhabitants to make more environmentally friendly choices and boost sustainable economic growth and enabling cities to improve their service delivery.

67. We commit ourselves to promoting the creation and maintenance of well-connected and well-distributed networks of open, multipurpose, safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, to improving the resilience of cities to disasters and climate change, including floods, drought risks and heatwaves, to improving food security and nutrition, physical and mental health, and household and ambient air quality, to reducing noise and promoting attractive and liveable cities, human settlements and urban landscapes and to prioritizing the conservation of endemic species.

68. We commit ourselves to giving particular consideration to urban deltas, coastal areas and other environmentally sensitive areas, highlighting their importance as ecosystems' providers of significant resources for transport, food security, economic prosperity, ecosystem services and resilience. We commit ourselves to integrating appropriate measures into sustainable urban and territorial planning and development.

69. We commit ourselves to preserving and promoting the ecological and social function of land, including coastal areas that support cities and human settlements, and to fostering ecosystem-based solutions to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, so that the ecosystem's regenerative capacity is not exceeded. We also commit ourselves to promoting sustainable land use, combining urban extensions with adequate densities and compactness to prevent and contain urban sprawl, as well as preventing unnecessary land-use change and the loss of productive land and fragile and important ecosystems.

70. We commit ourselves to supporting local provision of goods and basic services and leveraging the proximity of resources, recognizing that heavy reliance on distant sources of energy, water, food and materials can pose sustainability challenges, including vulnerability to service supply disruptions, and that local provision can facilitate inhabitants' access to resources.

71. We commit ourselves to strengthening the sustainable management of resources, including land, water (oceans, seas and fresh water), energy, materials, forests and food, with particular attention to the environmentally sound management and minimization of all waste, hazardous chemicals, including air and short-lived climate pollutants, greenhouse gases and noise, and in a way that considers urban-rural linkages, functional supply and value chains vis-à-vis environmental impact and sustainability and that strives to transition to a circular economy while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges.

72. We commit ourselves to long-term urban and territorial planning processes and spatial development practices that incorporate integrated water resources planning and management, considering the urban-rural continuum on the local and territorial scales and including the participation of relevant stakeholders and communities.

73. We commit ourselves to promoting the conservation and sustainable use of water by rehabilitating water resources within the urban, peri-urban and rural areas, reducing and treating wastewater, minimizing water losses, promoting water reuse and increasing water storage, retention and recharge, taking into consideration the water cycle.

74. We commit ourselves to promoting environmentally sound waste management and to substantially reducing waste generation by reducing, reusing and recycling waste, minimizing landfills and converting waste to energy when waste cannot be recycled or when this choice delivers the best environmental outcome. We further commit ourselves to reducing marine pollution through improved waste and wastewater management in coastal areas.

75. We commit ourselves to encouraging national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, to develop sustainable, renewable and affordable energy and energy-efficient buildings and construction modes and to promoting energy conservation and efficiency, which are essential to enable the reduction of greenhouse gas and black carbon emissions, ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, help create new decent jobs, improve public health and reduce the costs of energy supply.

76. We commit ourselves to making sustainable use of natural resources and focusing on the resource efficiency of raw and construction materials such as concrete, metals, wood, minerals and land. We commit ourselves to establishing safe material recovery and recycling facilities, promoting the development of sustainable and resilient buildings and prioritizing the use of local, non-toxic and recycled materials and lead-additive-free paints and coatings.

77. We commit ourselves to strengthening the resilience of cities and human settlements, including through the development of quality infrastructure and spatial planning, by adopting and implementing integrated, age- and gender-responsive policies and plans and ecosystem-based approaches in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and by mainstreaming holistic and data-informed disaster risk reduction and management at all levels to reduce vulnerabilities and risk, especially in risk-prone areas of formal and informal settlements, including slums, and to enable households, communities, institutions and services to prepare for, respond to, adapt to and rapidly recover from the effects of hazards, including shocks or latent stresses. We will promote the development of infrastructure that is resilient and resource efficient and will reduce the risks and impact of disasters, including the rehabilitation and upgrading of slums and informal settlements. We will also promote measures for strengthening and retrofitting all risky housing stock, including in slums and informal settlements, to make it resilient to disasters, in coordination with local authorities and stakeholders.

78. We commit ourselves to supporting moving from reactive to more proactive risk-based, all-hazards and all-of-society approaches, such as raising public awareness of risks and promoting ex ante investments to prevent risks and build resilience, while also ensuring timely and effective local responses to address the immediate needs of inhabitants affected by natural and human-made disasters and conflicts. This should include the integration of the "build back better" principles into the post-disaster recovery process to integrate resilience-building, environmental and spatial measures and lessons from past disasters, as well as awareness of new risks, into future planning.

79. We commit ourselves to promoting international, national, subnational and local climate action, including climate change adaptation and mitigation, and to supporting the efforts of cities and human settlements, their inhabitants and all local stakeholders as important implementers. We further commit ourselves to supporting building resilience and reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from all relevant sectors. Such measures should be consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

80. We commit ourselves to supporting the medium- to long-term adaptation planning process, as well as city-level assessments of climate vulnerability and impact, to inform adaptation plans, policies, programmes and actions that build the resilience of urban inhabitants, including through the use of ecosystem-based adaptation.

Effective implementation

81. We recognize that the realization of the transformative commitments set out in the New Urban Agenda will require enabling policy frameworks at the national, subnational and local levels, integrated by participatory planning and management of urban spatial development and effective means of implementation, complemented by international cooperation as well as efforts in capacity development, including the sharing of best practices, policies and programmes among Governments at all levels.

82. We invite international and regional organizations and bodies, including those of the United Nations system and multilateral environmental agreements, development partners, international and multilateral financial

institutions, regional development banks, the private sector and other stakeholders, to enhance coordination of their urban and rural development strategies and programmes to apply an integrated approach to sustainable urbanization, mainstreaming the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

83. In this regard, we emphasize the need to improve United Nations system-wide coordination and coherence in the area of sustainable urban development, within the framework of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting, as stressed in paragraph 88 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

84. We strongly urge States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries.

Building the urban governance structure: establishing a supportive framework

85. We acknowledge the principles and strategies contained in the International Guidelines on Decentralization and Strengthening of Local Authorities and the International Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for All, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in its resolutions 21/3 of 20 April 2007[324] and 22/8 of 3 April 2009.[325]

86. We will anchor the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda in inclusive, implementable and participatory urban policies, as appropriate, to mainstream sustainable urban and territorial development as part of integrated development strategies and plans, supported, as appropriate, by national, subnational and local institutional and regulatory frameworks, ensuring that they are adequately linked to transparent and accountable finance mechanisms.

87. We will foster stronger coordination and cooperation among national, subnational and local governments, including through multilevel consultation mechanisms and by clearly defining the respective competences, tools and resources for each level of government.

88. We will ensure coherence between goals and measures of sectoral policies, inter alia, rural development, land use, food security and nutrition, management of natural resources, provision of public services, water and sanitation, health, environment, energy, housing and mobility policies, at different levels and scales of political administration, across administrative borders and considering the appropriate functional areas, in order to strengthen integrated approaches to urbanization and implement integrated urban and territorial planning strategies that factor them in.

89. We will take measures to establish legal and policy frameworks, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, to enhance the ability of Governments to effectively implement national urban policies, as appropriate, and to empower them as policymakers and decision makers, ensuring appropriate fiscal, political and administrative decentralization based on the principle of subsidiarity.

90. We will, in line with countries' national legislation, support strengthening the capacity of subnational and local governments to implement effective local and metropolitan multilevel governance, across administrative borders, and based on functional territories, ensuring the involvement of subnational and local governments in decision-making and working to provide them with the necessary authority and resources to manage critical urban, metropolitan and territorial concerns. We will promote metropolitan governance that is inclusive and encompasses legal frameworks and reliable financing mechanisms, including sustainable debt management, as applicable. We will take measures to promote women's full and effective participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making, including in local governments.

91. We will support local governments in determining their own administrative and management structures, in line with national legislation and policies, as appropriate, in order to adapt to local needs. We will encourage appropriate regulatory frameworks and support to local governments in partnering with communities, civil society and the private sector to develop and manage basic services and infrastructure, ensuring that the public interest is preserved and concise goals, responsibilities and accountability mechanisms are clearly defined.

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[324] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/62/8), annex I.

[325] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/64/8), annex I.

92. We will promote participatory age- and gender-responsive approaches at all stages of the urban and territorial policy and planning processes, from conceptualization to design, budgeting, implementation, evaluation and review, rooted in new forms of direct partnership between Governments at all levels and civil society, including through broad-based and well-resourced permanent mechanisms and platforms for cooperation and consultation open to all, using information and communications technologies and accessible data solutions.

Planning and managing urban spatial development

93. We acknowledge the principles and strategies for urban and territorial planning contained in the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, approved by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 25/6 of 23 April 2015.[326]

94. We will implement integrated planning that aims to balance short-term needs with the long-term desired outcomes of a competitive economy, high quality of life and sustainable environment. We will also strive to build flexibility into our plans in order to adjust to changing social and economic conditions over time. We will implement and systematically evaluate these plans, while making efforts to leverage innovations in technology and to produce a better living environment.

95. We will support the implementation of integrated, polycentric and balanced territorial development policies and plans, encouraging cooperation and mutual support among different scales of cities and human settlements, strengthening the role of small and intermediate cities and towns in enhancing food security and nutrition systems, providing access to sustainable, affordable, adequate, resilient and safe housing, infrastructure and services, facilitating effective trade links across the urban-rural continuum and ensuring that small-scale farmers and fishers are linked to local, subnational, national, regional and global value chains and markets. We will also support urban agriculture and farming, as well as responsible, local and sustainable consumption and production, and social interactions, through enabling and accessible networks of local markets and commerce as an option for contributing to sustainability and food security.

96. We will encourage the implementation of sustainable urban and territorial planning, including city-region and metropolitan plans, to encourage synergies and interactions among urban areas of all sizes and their peri-urban and rural surroundings, including those that are cross-border, and we will support the development of sustainable regional infrastructure projects that stimulate sustainable economic productivity, promoting equitable growth of regions across the urban-rural continuum. In this regard, we will promote urban-rural partnerships and inter-municipal cooperation mechanisms based on functional territories and urban areas as effective instruments for performing municipal and metropolitan administrative tasks, delivering public services and promoting both local and regional development.

97. We will promote planned urban extensions and infill, prioritizing renewal, regeneration and retrofitting of urban areas, as appropriate, including the upgrading of slums and informal settlements, providing high-quality buildings and public spaces, promoting integrated and participatory approaches involving all relevant stakeholders and inhabitants and avoiding spatial and socioeconomic segregation and gentrification, while preserving cultural heritage and preventing and containing urban sprawl.

98. We will promote integrated urban and territorial planning, including planned urban extensions based on the principles of equitable, efficient and sustainable use of land and natural resources, compactness, polycentrism, appropriate density and connectivity, and multiple use of space, as well as mixed social and economic uses in built-up areas, in order to prevent urban sprawl, reduce mobility challenges and needs and service delivery costs per capita and harness density and economies of scale and agglomeration, as appropriate.

99. We will support the implementation of urban planning strategies, as appropriate, that facilitate a social mix through the provision of affordable housing options with access to quality basic services and public spaces for all, enhancing safety and security and favouring social and intergenerational interaction and the appreciation of diversity. We will take steps to include appropriate training and support for service delivery professionals and communities in areas affected by urban violence.

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[326] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/70/8), annex.

100. We will support the provision of well-designed networks of safe, accessible, green and quality streets and other public spaces that are accessible to all and free from crime and violence, including sexual harassment and gender-based violence, considering the human scale, and measures that allow for the best possible commercial use of street-level floors, fostering both formal and informal local markets and commerce, as well as not-for-profit community initiatives, bringing people into public spaces and promoting walkability and cycling with the goal of improving health and well-being.

101. We will integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations and measures into age- and gender-responsive urban and territorial development and planning processes, including greenhouse gas emissions, resilience-based and climate-effective design of spaces, buildings and construction, services and infrastructure, and nature-based solutions. We will promote cooperation and coordination across sectors and build the capacities of local authorities to develop and implement disaster risk reduction and response plans, such as risk assessments concerning the location of current and future public facilities, and to formulate adequate contingency and evacuation procedures.

102. We will strive to improve capacity for urban planning and design and the provision of training for urban planners at the national, subnational and local levels.

103. We will integrate inclusive measures for urban safety and the prevention of crime and violence, including terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. Such measures will, where appropriate, engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing urban strategies and initiatives, including taking into account slums and informal settlements as well as vulnerability and cultural factors in the development of policies concerning public security and crime and violence prevention, including by preventing and countering the stigmatization of specific groups as posing inherently greater security threats.

104. We will promote compliance with legal requirements through strong, inclusive management frameworks and accountable institutions that deal with land registration and governance, applying transparent and sustainable management and use of land, property registration and sound financial systems. We will support local governments and relevant stakeholders, through a variety of mechanisms, in developing and using basic land inventory information, such as cadastres, valuation and risk maps, and land and housing price records, to generate the high-quality, timely and reliable data – disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in the national context – needed to assess changes in land values, while ensuring that these data will not be used for discriminatory land-use policies.

105. We will foster the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living. We will develop and implement housing policies at all levels, incorporating participatory planning and applying the principle of subsidiarity, as appropriate, in order to ensure coherence among national, subnational and local development strategies, land policies and housing supply.

106. We will promote housing policies based on the principles of social inclusion, economic effectiveness and environmental protection. We will support the effective use of public resources for affordable and sustainable housing, including land in central and consolidated areas of cities with adequate infrastructure, and encourage mixed-income development to promote social inclusion and cohesion.

107. We will encourage the development of policies, tools, mechanisms and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable, sustainable housing options, including rental and other tenure options, as well as cooperative solutions such as co-housing, community land trusts and other forms of collective tenure that would address the evolving needs of persons and communities, in order to improve the supply of housing (especially for low-income groups), prevent segregation and arbitrary forced evictions and displacements and provide dignified and adequate reallocation. This will include support to incremental housing and self-build schemes, with special attention to programmes for upgrading slums and informal settlements.

108. We will support the development of housing policies that foster local integrated housing approaches by addressing the strong links between education, employment, housing and health, preventing exclusion and segregation. Furthermore, we commit ourselves to combating homelessness as well as to combating and eliminating its criminalization through dedicated policies and targeted active inclusion strategies, such as comprehensive, inclusive and sustainable housing-first programmes.

109. We will consider increased allocations of financial and human resources, as appropriate, for the upgrading and, to the extent possible, prevention of slums and informal settlements, with strategies that go beyond physical

and environmental improvements to ensure that slums and informal settlements are integrated into the social, economic, cultural and political dimensions of cities. These strategies should include, as applicable, access to sustainable, adequate, safe and affordable housing, basic and social services, and safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, and they should promote security of tenure and its regularization, as well as measures for conflict prevention and mediation.

110. We will support efforts to define and reinforce inclusive and transparent monitoring systems for reducing the proportion of people living in slums and informal settlements, taking into account the experiences gained from previous efforts to improve the living conditions of slum and informal-settlement dwellers.

111. We will promote the development of adequate and enforceable regulations in the housing sector, including, as applicable, resilient building codes, standards, development permits, land-use by-laws and ordinances, and planning regulations, combating and preventing speculation, displacement, homelessness and arbitrary forced evictions and ensuring sustainability, quality, affordability, health, safety, accessibility, energy and resource efficiency, and resilience. We will also promote differentiated analysis of housing supply and demand based on high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data at the national, subnational and local levels, considering specific social, economic, environmental and cultural dimensions.

112. We will promote the implementation of sustainable urban development programmes with housing and people's needs at the centre of the strategy, prioritizing well-located and well-distributed housing schemes in order to avoid peripheral and isolated mass housing developments detached from urban systems, regardless of the social and economic segment for which they are developed, and providing solutions for the housing needs of low-income groups.

113. We will take measures to improve road safety and integrate it into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design. Together with awareness-raising initiatives, we will promote the safe-system approach called for in the Decade of Action for Road Safety, with special attention to the needs of all women and girls, as well as children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations. We will work to adopt, implement and enforce policies and measures to actively protect and promote pedestrian safety and cycling mobility, with a view to broader health outcomes, particularly the prevention of injuries and non-communicable diseases, and we will work to develop and implement comprehensive legislation and policies on motorcycle safety, given the disproportionally high and increasing numbers of motorcycle deaths and injuries globally, particularly in developing countries. We will promote the safe and healthy journey to school for every child as a priority.

114. We will promote access for all to safe, age- and gender-responsive, affordable, accessible and sustainable urban mobility and land and sea transport systems, enabling meaningful participation in social and economic activities in cities and human settlements, by integrating transport and mobility plans into overall urban and territorial plans and promoting a wide range of transport and mobility options, in particular by supporting:

(*a*) A significant increase in accessible, safe, efficient, affordable and sustainable infrastructure for public transport, as well as non-motorized options such as walking and cycling, prioritizing them over private motorized transportation;

(*b*) Equitable "transit-oriented development" that minimizes the displacement, in particular, of the poor, and features affordable, mixed-income housing and a mix of jobs and services;

(*c*) Better and coordinated transport and land-use planning, which would lead to a reduction of travel and transport needs, enhancing connectivity between urban, peri-urban and rural areas, including waterways, and transport and mobility planning, particularly for small island developing States and coastal cities;

(*d*) Urban freight planning and logistics concepts that enable efficient access to products and services, minimizing their impact on the environment and on the liveability of the city and maximizing their contribution to sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

115. We will take measures to develop mechanisms and common frameworks at the national, subnational and local levels to evaluate the wider benefits of urban and metropolitan transport schemes, including impacts on the environment, the economy, social cohesion, quality of life, accessibility, road safety, public health and action on climate change, among other things.

116. We will support the development of these mechanisms and frameworks, based on sustainable national urban transport and mobility policies, for sustainable, open and transparent procurement and regulation of transport and mobility services in urban and metropolitan areas, including new technology that enables shared mobility services. We will support the development of clear, transparent and accountable contractual relationships between local governments and transport and mobility service providers, including on data management, which further protect the public interest and individual privacy and define mutual obligations.

117. We will support better coordination between transport and urban and territorial planning departments, in mutual understanding of planning and policy frameworks, at the national, subnational and local levels, including through sustainable urban and metropolitan transport and mobility plans. We will support subnational and local governments in developing the necessary knowledge and capacity to implement and enforce such plans.

118. We will encourage national, subnational and local governments to develop and expand financing instruments, enabling them to improve their transport and mobility infrastructure and systems, such as mass rapid-transit systems, integrated transport systems, air and rail systems, and safe, sufficient and adequate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and technology-based innovations in transport and transit systems to reduce congestion and pollution while improving efficiency, connectivity, accessibility, health and quality of life.

119. We will promote adequate investments in protective, accessible and sustainable infrastructure and service provision systems for water, sanitation and hygiene, sewage, solid waste management, urban drainage, reduction of air pollution and storm water management, in order to improve safety in the event of water-related disasters, improve health, ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, as well as access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, with special attention to the needs and safety of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations. We will seek to ensure that this infrastructure is climate resilient and forms part of integrated urban and territorial development plans, including housing and mobility, among other things, and is implemented in a participatory manner, considering innovative, resource-efficient, accessible, context-specific and culturally sensitive sustainable solutions.

120. We will work to equip public water and sanitation utilities with the capacity to implement sustainable water management systems, including sustainable maintenance of urban infrastructure services, through capacity development, with the goal of progressively eliminating inequalities and promoting both universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all.

121. We will ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services by promoting energy efficiency and sustainable renewable energy and supporting subnational and local efforts to apply them in public buildings, infrastructure and facilities, as well as in taking advantage of the direct control, where applicable, by subnational and local governments of local infrastructure and codes, to foster uptake in end-use sectors, such as residential, commercial and industrial buildings, industry, transport, waste and sanitation. We also encourage the adoption of building performance codes and standards, renewable portfolio targets, energy-efficiency labelling, retrofitting of existing buildings and public procurement policies on energy, among other modalities as appropriate, to achieve energy-efficiency targets. We will also prioritize smart-grid, district energy systems and community energy plans to improve synergies between renewable energy and energy efficiency.

122. We will support decentralized decision-making on waste disposal to promote universal access to sustainable waste management systems. We will support the promotion of extended producer-responsibility schemes that include waste generators and producers in the financing of urban waste management systems, reduce the hazards and socioeconomic impacts of waste streams and increase recycling rates through better product design.

123. We will promote the integration of food security and the nutritional needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, in order to end hunger and malnutrition. We will promote the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways in order to reduce food losses and prevent and reuse food waste. We will further promote the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste policies, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, reduce the use of hazardous chemicals and implement other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste.

124. We will include culture as a priority component of urban plans and strategies in the adoption of planning instruments, including master plans, zoning guidelines, building codes, coastal management policies and strategic

development policies that safeguard a diverse range of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and landscapes, and will protect them from potential disruptive impacts of urban development.

125. We will support the leveraging of cultural heritage for sustainable urban development and recognize its role in stimulating participation and responsibility. We will promote innovative and sustainable use of architectural monuments and sites, with the intention of value creation, through respectful restoration and adaptation. We will engage indigenous peoples and local communities in the promotion and dissemination of knowledge of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and protection of traditional expressions and languages, including through the use of new technologies and techniques.

Means of implementation

126. We recognize that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires an enabling environment and a wide range of means of implementation, including access to science, technology and innovation and enhanced knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, as well as capacity development and mobilization of financial resources, taking into account the commitment of developed and developing countries and tapping into all available traditional and innovative sources at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, as well as enhanced international cooperation and partnerships among Governments at all levels, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors, based on the principles of equality, non-discrimination, accountability, respect for human rights and solidarity, especially for those who are the poorest and most vulnerable.

127. We reaffirm the commitments on means of implementation included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

128. We will encourage UN-Habitat, other United Nations programmes and agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to generate evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals, in close collaboration with Member States, local authorities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as well as through the mobilization of experts. We will build on the legacy of the Habitat III conference and the lessons learned from its preparatory process, including the regional and thematic meetings. We note, in this context, the valuable contributions of, inter alia, the World Urban Campaign, the General Assembly of Partners for Habitat III and the Global Land Tool Network.

129. We urge UN-Habitat to continue its work to develop its normative knowledge and provide capacity development and tools to national, subnational and local governments in designing, planning and managing sustainable urban development.

130. We recognize that sustainable urban development, guided by prevailing urban policies and strategies, as appropriate, can benefit from integrated financing frameworks that are supported by an enabling environment at all levels. We acknowledge the importance of ensuring that all financial means of implementation are firmly embedded in coherent policy frameworks and fiscal decentralization processes, where available, and that adequate capacities are developed at all levels.

131. We support context-sensitive approaches to financing urbanization and enhancing financial management capacities at all levels of government through the adoption of specific instruments and mechanisms necessary to achieve sustainable urban development, recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development.

132. We will mobilize endogenous resources and revenues generated through the capture of benefits of urbanization, as well as the catalysing effects and maximized impact of public and private investments, in order to improve the financial conditions for urban development and open access to additional sources, recognizing that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underpinned by the principle of national ownership, are central to our common pursuit of sustainable urban development, including implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

133. We call upon businesses to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges in urban areas, acknowledging that private business activity, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive growth and job creation, and that private investment, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are essential elements of development efforts.

134. We will support appropriate policies and capacities that enable subnational and local governments to register and expand their potential revenue base, for example through multipurpose cadastres, local taxes, fees and service

charges, in line with national policies, while ensuring that women and girls, children and youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, and poor households are not disproportionately affected.

135. We will promote sound and transparent systems for financial transfers from national Governments to subnational and local governments based on the latter's needs, priorities, functions, mandates and performance-based incentives, as appropriate, in order to provide them with adequate, timely and predictable resources and enhance their ability to raise revenue and manage expenditures.

136. We will support the development of vertical and horizontal models of distribution of financial resources to decrease inequalities across subnational territories, within urban centres and between urban and rural areas, as well as to promote integrated and balanced territorial development. In this regard, we emphasize the importance of improving the transparency of data on spending and resource allocation as a tool for assessing progress towards equity and spatial integration.

137. We will promote best practices to capture and share the increase in land and property value generated as a result of urban development processes, infrastructure projects and public investments. Measures such as gains-related fiscal policies could be put in place, as appropriate, to prevent its solely private capture, as well as land and real estate speculation. We will reinforce the link between fiscal systems and urban planning, as well as urban management tools, including land market regulations. We will work to ensure that efforts to generate land-based finance do not result in unsustainable land use and consumption.

138. We will support subnational and local governments in their efforts to implement transparent and accountable expenditure control instruments for assessing the necessity and impact of local investment and projects, based on legislative control and public participation, as appropriate, in support of open and fair tendering processes, procurement mechanisms and reliable budget execution, as well as preventive anti-corruption measures to promote integrity, accountability, effective management and access to public property and land, in line with national policies.

139. We will support the creation of robust legal and regulatory frameworks for sustainable national and municipal borrowing, on the basis of sustainable debt management, supported by adequate revenues and capacities, by means of local creditworthiness as well as expanded sustainable municipal debt markets when appropriate. We will consider the establishment of appropriate financial intermediaries for urban financing, such as regional, national, subnational and local development funds or development banks, including pooled financing mechanisms, which can catalyse public and private, national and international financing. We will work to promote risk mitigation mechanisms such as the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, while managing currency risk, to reduce the cost of capital and to stimulate the private sector and households to participate in sustainable urban development and resilience-building efforts, including access to risk transfer mechanisms.

140. We will support the development of appropriate and affordable housing finance products and encourage the participation of a diverse range of multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and development finance institutions, cooperation agencies, private sector lenders and investors, cooperatives, moneylenders and microfinance banks to invest in affordable and incremental housing in all its forms.

141. We will also consider establishing urban and territorial transport infrastructure and service funds at the national level, based on a variety of funding sources ranging from public grants to contributions from other public entities and the private sector, ensuring coordination among actors and interventions as well as accountability.

142. We invite international multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, development finance institutions and cooperation agencies to provide financial support, including through innovative financial mechanisms, to programmes and projects for implementing the New Urban Agenda, particularly in developing countries.

143. We support access to different multilateral funds, including the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds, among others, to secure resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, policies, programmes and actions for subnational and local governments, within the framework of agreed procedures. We will collaborate with subnational and local financial institutions, as appropriate, to develop climate finance infrastructure solutions and to create appropriate mechanisms for identifying catalytic financial instruments, consistent with any national framework in place to ensure fiscal and debt sustainability at all levels of government.

144. We will explore and develop feasible solutions to climate and disaster risks in cities and human settlements, including by collaborating with insurance and reinsurance institutions and other relevant actors with regard to investments in urban and metropolitan infrastructure, buildings and other urban assets, as well as for local populations to secure their shelter and economic needs.

145. We support the use of international public finance, including official development assistance, among other things, to catalyse additional resource mobilization from all available sources, public and private, for sustainable urban and territorial development. This may include the mitigation of risks for potential investors, in recognition of the fact that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources.

146. We will expand opportunities for North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, as well as subnational, decentralized and city-to-city cooperation, as appropriate, to contribute to sustainable urban development, developing capacities and fostering exchanges of urban solutions and mutual learning at all levels and by all relevant actors.

147. We will promote capacity development as a multifaceted approach that addresses the ability of multiple stakeholders and institutions at all levels of governance and combines the individual, societal and institutional capacity to formulate, implement, enhance, manage, monitor and evaluate public policies for sustainable urban development.

148. We will promote the strengthening of the capacity of national, subnational and local governments, including local government associations, as appropriate, to work with women and girls, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, and those in vulnerable situations, as well as with civil society, academia and research institutions in shaping organizational and institutional governance processes, enabling them to participate effectively in decision-making about urban and territorial development.

149. We will support local government associations as promoters and providers of capacity development, recognizing and strengthening, as appropriate, both their involvement in national consultations on urban policies and development priorities and their cooperation with subnational and local governments, along with civil society, the private sector, professionals, academia and research institutions, and their existing networks, to deliver on capacity development programmes. This should be done by means of peer-to-peer learning, subject matter-related partnerships and collaborative actions, such as inter-municipal cooperation, on a global, regional, national, subnational and local scale, including the establishment of practitioners' networks and science-policy interface practices.

150. We underscore the need for enhanced cooperation and knowledge exchange on science, technology and innovation to benefit sustainable urban development, in full coherence, coordination and synergy with the processes of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and launched under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

151. We will promote capacity development programmes to help subnational and local governments in financial planning and management, anchored in institutional coordination at all levels, including environmental sensitivity and anti-corruption measures, embracing transparent and independent oversight, accounting, procurement, reporting, auditing and monitoring processes, among others, and to review subnational and national performance and compliance, with particular attention to age- and gender-responsive budgeting and the improvement and digitalization of accounting processes and records, in order to promote results-based approaches and build medium- to long-term administrative and technical capacity.

152. We will promote capacity development programmes on the use of legal land-based revenue and financing tools, as well as on real estate market functioning for policymakers and local public officials, focusing on the legal and economic foundations of value capture, including the quantification, capturing and distribution of land value increments.

153. We will promote the systematic use of multi-stakeholder partnerships in urban development processes, as appropriate, establishing clear and transparent policies, financial and administrative frameworks and procedures, as well as planning guidelines for multi-stakeholder partnerships.

154. We recognize the significant contribution of voluntary collaborative initiatives, partnerships and coalitions that plan to initiate and enhance the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, highlighting best practices and innovative solutions, including by promoting co-production networks between subnational entities, local governments and other relevant stakeholders.

155. We will promote capacity development initiatives to empower and strengthen the skills and abilities of women and girls, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as persons in vulnerable situations, for shaping governance processes, engaging in dialogue, and promoting and protecting human rights and anti-discrimination, to ensure their effective participation in urban and territorial development decision-making.

156. We will promote the development of national information and communications technology policies and e-government strategies, as well as citizen-centric digital governance tools, tapping into technological innovations, including capacity development programmes, in order to make information and communications technologies accessible to the public, including women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and persons in vulnerable situations, to enable them to develop and exercise civic responsibility, broadening participation and fostering responsible governance, as well as increasing efficiency. The use of digital platforms and tools, including geospatial information systems, will be encouraged to improve long-term integrated urban and territorial planning and design, land administration and management, and access to urban and metropolitan services.

157. We will support science, research and innovation, including a focus on social, technological, digital and nature-based innovation, robust science-policy interfaces in urban and territorial planning and policy formulation and institutionalized mechanisms for sharing and exchanging information, knowledge and expertise, including the collection, analysis, standardization and dissemination of geographically based, community-collected, high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national, subnational and local contexts.

158. We will strengthen data and statistical capacities at the national, subnational and local levels to effectively monitor progress achieved in the implementation of sustainable urban development policies and strategies and to inform decision-making and appropriate reviews. Data collection procedures for the implementation of, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda should primarily be based on official national, subnational and local data sources, and other sources as appropriate, and be open, transparent and consistent with the purpose of respecting privacy rights and all human rights obligations and commitments. Progress towards a global people-based definition of cities and human settlements may support this work.

159. We will support the role and enhanced capacity of national, subnational and local governments in data collection, mapping, analysis and dissemination and in promoting evidence-based governance, building on a shared knowledge base using both globally comparable as well as locally generated data, including through censuses, household surveys, population registers, community-based monitoring processes and other relevant sources, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national, subnational and local contexts.

160. We will foster the creation, promotion and enhancement of open, user-friendly and participatory data platforms using technological and social tools available to transfer and share knowledge among national, subnational and local governments and relevant stakeholders, including non-State actors and people, to enhance effective urban planning and management, efficiency and transparency through e-governance, approaches assisted by information and communications technologies, and geospatial information management.

Follow-up and review

161. We will carry out a periodic follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, ensuring coherence at the national, regional and global levels, in order to track progress, assess impact and ensure the Agenda's effective and timely implementation, accountability to our citizens and transparency, in an inclusive manner.

162. We encourage voluntary, country-led, open, inclusive, multilevel, participatory and transparent follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda. The process should take into account contributions of national, subnational and local levels of government and be supplemented by contributions from the United Nations system, regional and

subregional organizations, major groups and relevant stakeholders, and should be a continuous process aimed at creating and reinforcing partnerships among all relevant stakeholders and fostering exchanges of urban solutions and mutual learning.

163. We acknowledge the importance of local governments as active partners in the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda at all levels and encourage them to develop, jointly with national and subnational governments, as appropriate, implementable follow-up and review mechanisms at the local level, including through relevant associations and appropriate platforms. We will consider strengthening, where appropriate, their capacity to contribute in this respect.

164. We stress that the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda must have effective linkages with the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure coordination and coherence in their implementation.

165. We reaffirm the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities, recognizing the linkages between sustainable urbanization and, inter alia, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change.

166. We invite the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General, with voluntary inputs from countries and relevant regional and international organizations, to report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda every four years, with the first report to be submitted during the seventy-second session of the Assembly.

167. The report will provide a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the progress made in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and internationally agreed goals and targets relevant to sustainable urbanization and human settlements. The analysis will be based on the activities of national, subnational and local governments, UN-Habitat, other relevant entities of the United Nations system, relevant stakeholders in support of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the reports of the UN-Habitat Governing Council. The report should incorporate, to the extent possible, the inputs of multilateral organizations and processes where appropriate, civil society, the private sector and academia. It should build on existing platforms and processes such as the World Urban Forum convened by UN-Habitat. The report should avoid duplication and respond to local, subnational and national circumstances and legislation, capacities, needs and priorities.

168. The preparation of the report will be coordinated by UN-Habitat in close collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, ensuring an inclusive United Nations system-wide coordination process. The report will be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.[327] The report will also feed into the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring coherence, coordination and collaborative linkages with the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

169. We will continue to strengthen mobilization efforts through partnerships, advocacy and awareness-raising activities relating to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda using existing initiatives such as World Habitat Day and World Cities Day, and will consider establishing new initiatives to mobilize and generate support from civil society, citizens and relevant stakeholders. We note the importance of continuing to engage in the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda with subnational and local government associations represented at the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

170. We reaffirm General Assembly resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 67/216, 68/239 and 69/226, as well as other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including resolutions 31/109 of 16 December 1976 and 32/162 of 19 December 1977. We reiterate the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat.

171. We underline the importance of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities.

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[327] The report is intended to replace the report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda. It is also intended to be part of, and not additional to, the report of the Secretary-General requested by the General Assembly in its resolution under the relevant agenda item.

172. In the light of the New Urban Agenda and with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of UN-Habitat, we request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly during its seventy-first session an evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat. The result of the assessment will be a report containing recommendations to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and oversight of UN-Habitat, and in this regard it should analyse:

(*a*) The normative and operational mandate of UN-Habitat;

(*b*) The governance structure of UN-Habitat, for more effective, accountable and transparent decision-making, considering alternatives, including universalization of the membership of its Governing Council;

(*c*) The work of UN-Habitat with national, subnational and local governments and with relevant stakeholders in order to tap the full potential of partnerships;

(*d*) The financial capability of UN-Habitat.

173. We decide to hold a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to be convened by the President of the General Assembly during the seventy-first session, to discuss the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in this regard. The meeting will discuss, inter alia, best practices, success stories and the measures contained in the report. A Chair's summary of the meeting will serve as an input to the Second Committee during the seventy-second session for its consideration of action to be taken in the light of the recommendations contained in the independent assessment in its annual resolution under the relevant agenda item.

174. We encourage the General Assembly to consider holding the next United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat IV) in 2036 within a renewed political commitment to assessing and consolidating progress on the New Urban Agenda.

175. We request the Secretary-General, in his quadrennial report to be presented in 2026 pursuant to paragraph 166 above, to take stock of the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda since its adoption and to identify further steps to address them.

RESOLUTION 71/257

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, by a recorded vote of 158 to 2, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Sweden, Togo, Ukraine, United States of America

* *In favour*: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Abstaining: Colombia, El Salvador

71/257. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015, as well as other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[328]

Recalling also, in this regard, resolution 69/292 of 19 June 2015 on the development of an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[329] and the reports on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process),[330] and of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (the Informal Consultative Process) at its seventeenth meeting,[331] and on the resumed twenty-fifth and the twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention,[332]

Recognizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Emphasizing the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[333]

Noting with satisfaction that, in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[334] as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, States recognized that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical to sustaining it, and that international law, as reflected in the Convention, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,

Recalling that, in "The future we want", States underscored that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings were essential to the promotion of sustainable development and that sustainable development required the meaningful involvement and active participation of regional, national and subnational legislatures and judiciaries, and all major groups, and, in this regard, that they agreed to work more closely with major groups and other stakeholders and encouraged their active participation, as appropriate, in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels,

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[328] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[329] A/71/74 and Add.1.

[330] A/71/362.

[331] A/71/204.

[332] SPLOS/293 and SPLOS/303.

[333] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[334] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

Recognizing the important contribution of sustainable development and management of the resources and uses of the oceans and seas to the achievement of international development goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling its decision to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,[335] as well as its resolution 70/303 of 9 September 2016 on modalities for the Conference,

Recognizing paragraphs 64 and 65 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the Conference, which was held from 13 to 16 July 2015,[336]

Welcoming the outcomes of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, especially the resolutions on oceans and seas,[337] marine plastic litter and microplastics,[338] sustainable coral reefs management[339] and the role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,[340]

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reiterating the essential need for cooperation, including through capacity-building and transfer of marine technology, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues, while recognizing the need to also address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

Recalling that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

Reiterating its deep concern at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems and their physical and biogenic structure, including coral reefs, cold water habitats, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

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[335] Resolution 70/226.

[336] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[337] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex, resolution 2/10.

[338] Ibid., resolution 2/11.

[339] Ibid., resolution 2/12.

[340] Ibid., resolution 2/4.

Emphasizing the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

Expressing deep concern at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

Reiterating its serious concern at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing these issues,

Noting with concern, in this regard, the latest findings by the World Meteorological Organization, in its annual *Greenhouse gas bulletin*, that, for the first time in 2015, carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere were 400 parts per million, on average across the year as a whole,

Expressing concern that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

Reiterating its deep concern at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification,

Recognizing the need for a more integrated and ecosystem-based approach to, further study of and the promotion of measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction,

Recognizing also that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

Recognizing further that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection, and noting that, under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[341] ships on international voyages are required to carry an electronic chart display and information system, in accordance with the implementation schedule as set out in that Convention,

Recognizing that ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law are critical for improving understanding of weather, climate and ecosystems, and that certain types of ocean data buoys contribute to saving lives by detecting tsunamis, and reiterating its serious concern at intentional and unintentional damage to such buoys,

Emphasizing that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercraft, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

Recognizing the duty of States under article 303, paragraph 1, of the Convention to protect objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea and to cooperate for this purpose,

Expressing concern, in this regard, at various threats posed to such objects, including their destruction as well as the illicit trafficking in such objects,

Recognizing that illicit trafficking in wildlife is, in some cases, committed by transnational organized criminal groups using maritime routes, contributes to damage to ecosystems and livelihoods and requires enhanced regional and global cooperation and coordination in response, in accordance with international law,

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[341] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1184, No. 18961.

Noting with concern the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

Reiterating the importance of the fair treatment of crew members and its influence on maritime safety,

Recognizing that fibre-optic submarine cables transmit most of the world's data and communications and hence are vitally important to the global economy and the national security of all States, conscious that these cables are susceptible to intentional and accidental damage from shipping and other activities and that the maintenance, including the repair, of these cables is important, noting that these matters have been brought to the attention of States at various workshops and seminars, and conscious of the need for States to adopt national laws and regulations to protect submarine cables and render their wilful damage or damage by culpable negligence punishable offences,

Noting the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available,[342]

Noting also that many coastal States Parties have submitted preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, as provided for in the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*),[343]

Noting further that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

Noting that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including through the voluntary trust fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the trust funds established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission and in fulfilling the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, noting with appreciation the recent contributions made to them, while observing with concern that the lack of funds in the voluntary trust fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of the participation in its meetings of the members of the Commission from developing States may prevent the Commission from implementing the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties that requested the Commission to meet for up to 26 weeks, and may preclude the Commission from advancing its work as a result of the potential lack of quorum at the 2017 sessions, and in this regard urging States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to contribute to the trust fund,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

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[342] Available from the web page of the Commission maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

[343] SPLOS/183.

Recognizing that practical difficulties can arise when there is a considerable delay between the preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission, including in retaining expertise up to and during the consideration of the submissions by the Commission,

Recognizing also the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places additional demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division), and welcoming the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission,[344]

Noting with concern the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received, and in this regard noting the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to renew the request made by the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and to request the Commission to consider, in coordination with the Secretariat, as from 16 June 2017, within the existing resources made available to the Secretariat, that the Commission, and its subcommissions meeting simultaneously as far as possible, meet at United Nations Headquarters for up to 26 weeks but not less than an intended minimum of 21 weeks a year for a period of five years, distributed in such a way that the Commission determines to be the most effective, and that no two sessions be sequential, and to request the Commission to prepare a plan of sessions to be held in 2017 on the basis of that request,[345]

Recognizing the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

Expressing concern about the implications of the workload of the Commission for the conditions of service of its members,

Recalling, in this regard, the decisions of the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,[346]

Recalling also its decision, in resolutions 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 58/240 of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[347] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

Recalling further its decisions, in paragraphs 202, 203 and 209 of resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, paragraphs 200, 205 and 206 of resolution 66/231 of 24 December 2011 and paragraphs 264, 265, 281, 284, 287 and 288 of resolution 70/235 regarding the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations and accountable to the General Assembly,

Recalling that the Division was designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions,

Recognizing the importance and the contribution of the work of the Informal Consultative Process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the Assembly,

Noting the continuously growing responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33, 65/37 A, 65/37 B of 4 April 2011, 66/231, 67/78 of 11 December 2012, 68/70 of 9 December 2013, 69/245 of 29 December 2014 and 69/292, and in this context the unprecedented substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in carrying out the functions in resolution 69/292, as the secretariat of the Regular Process, in relation to the functions as focal point for UN-Oceans, and in relation to support for the implementation by Member States of the oceans-related Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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[344] SPLOS/229.

[345] See SPLOS/303.

[346] SPLOS/286 and SPLOS/303.

[347] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority (the Authority) in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Part XI Agreement),[348]

Reaffirming also the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal) in accordance with the Convention,

I

Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 70/235, and other relevant resolutions concerning the Convention;[328]

2. *Also reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

3. *Welcomes* the recent accession to the Convention, and calls upon all States that have not done so, in order to fully achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;[348]

4. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Fish Stocks Agreement);[349]

5. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

6. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention, preferably using the generally accepted and most recent geodetic datums;

7. *Notes*, in this regard, the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the existing geographic information system for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning maritime zones, including lines of delimitation, submitted pursuant to the Convention, and to give due publicity thereto, as requested in paragraph 6 of resolution 59/24 of 17 November 2004, as well as the ongoing cooperation with the International Hydrographic Organization to develop the technical standards for the collection, storage and dissemination of the information deposited, in order to ensure compatibility among geographic information systems, electronic nautical charts and other systems, and re-emphasizes the importance of the prompt completion of these efforts;

8. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

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[348] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

[349] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

9. *Acknowledges* the recent deposit of instruments of ratification and acceptance of the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,[350] calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Convention, and notes in particular the rules annexed to that Convention, which address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

II

Capacity-building

10. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential to ensure that States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able to fully implement the Convention, benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and participate fully in global and regional forums on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

11. *Also emphasizes* the need to address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries through capacity-building;

12. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in "The future we want",[334] States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-second session, in 2003;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for international cooperation for capacity-building, including cross-sectoral cooperation, at national, regional and global levels, to address, in particular, gaps in capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

14. *Calls for* capacity-building initiatives to take into account the needs of developing countries, and calls upon States, international organizations and donor agencies to make efforts to ensure the sustainability of such initiatives;

15. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

16. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve aids to navigation and search and rescue services, hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

17. *Calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to continue to support and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

18. *Also calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to support and strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary

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[350] Ibid., vol. 2562, No. 45694.

infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law;

19. *Further calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to develop and strengthen capacity-building activities in and to transfer to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, on mutually agreed terms, and taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, environmentally sound technologies to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification;

20. *Emphasizes* the need to focus on strengthening South-South cooperation as an additional way to build capacity and as a cooperative mechanism to further enable countries to set their own priorities and needs and to foster actions to implement such cooperation;

21. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, a cooperative undertaking by the Center for Oceans Law and Policy of the University of Virginia School of Law, the Aegean Institute of the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law, the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea of Utrecht University and the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore that offers a prominent three-week summer course annually in Rhodes, Greece, and has graduated more than 860 students from more than 120 countries;

22. *Recognizes* the commemoration in 2016 of the tenth consecutive session of the Summer Academy of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

23. *Takes note* of the holding of three sessions of the Summer Academy on the Continental Shelf in 2014, 2015 and 2016 in the Faroe Islands, organized by the University of the Faroe Islands;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of the work of the Malta-based International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization, as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, including government legal advisers and other high-level officials, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law, shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute which runs annually;

25. *Also recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization as a centre of excellence for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University's newly established Endowment Fund;

26. *Welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

27. *Recognizes* the ongoing activities of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in coordinating capacity-building efforts to support developing States in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in marine and coastal areas, in particular through the Sustainable Ocean Initiative;[351]

28. *Also recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[352]

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[351] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, and CBD COP decision XII/23, paras. 19–22.

[352] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

29. *Further recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of and support the implementation of improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities and marine debris and nutrient pollution;[353]

30. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to the trust funds, as referred to in resolutions 55/7, 57/141 and 64/71 of 4 December 2009, established for this purpose, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;[354]

31. *Acknowledges* the importance of capacity-building for developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, for the protection of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources;

32. *Recognizes* that promoting the voluntary transfer of technology is an essential aspect of building capacity in marine science;

33. *Encourages* States to use the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

34. *Also encourages* States to consider additional opportunities for capacity-building at the regional level;

35. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Tribunal in holding regional workshops;

36. *Recalls* the decision by the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to launch the Global Ocean Science Report;

37. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the new Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2021), which takes into account that capacity development is a fundamental tenet of the mission of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

38. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to capacity-building through its Ocean Teacher Academy training system, which has provided training in ocean data and information management, and notes the setting up of the Ocean Teacher Global Academy, operating through a network of regional training centres, which builds capacity and promotes expertise available in developing countries;

39. *Welcomes* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, reiterated by member States at its fourteenth session, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, to continue to assist developing countries, upon request, in enhancing the sustainability and climate resilience of their transport systems and infrastructure, including coastal transport infrastructure;

40. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the Division to compile information on capacity-building initiatives, requests the Secretary-General to continue to regularly update such information provided by States, international organizations and donor agencies and include it in his annual report to the General Assembly, invites States, international organizations and donor agencies to submit such information to the Secretary-General for this purpose, and requests the Division to post the information on capacity-building initiatives from the annual report of the Secretary-General on the website of the Division in an easily accessible manner so as to facilitate the matching of capacity-building needs with opportunities;

41. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer

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[353] See 2012 Guidelines for the Development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan, International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.221(63).

[354] See A/70/74/Add.1, para. 137.

limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

42. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, and of providing assistance to developing States to meet the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs associated with meeting with the Commission when their submissions are being examined and upon the invitation of the Commission, in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund;[355]

43. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure[356] and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission[357] and to defray the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance for delegates to participate in meetings with the Commission upon its invitation;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

45. *Recognizes with appreciation* the contribution of the Division to capacity-building activities at the national and regional levels, in particular the work of the Division in promoting wider appreciation of the Convention and in assisting with its implementation, through the provision of information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizes in particular the continued delivery of a programme of assistance to the Government of Somalia under a project funded by the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, including two strategic fellowships, as well as the Division's support for Member State implementation of the relevant parts of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[358]

46. *Notes* the partnership between the Division and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on a training programme on marine scientific research under the Convention, and encourages States, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the initiative;

47. *Invites* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including by making earmarked voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

48. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea made by the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which was established by the General Assembly in 1981 in honour of the first President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea and which, relying on its network of 17 host institutions, has awarded to date 30 fellowships to individuals from 26 Member States, expresses its concern that an award in 2016 was not possible owing to a lack of funding, and recalls in this regard the provisions of its resolutions on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;[359]

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[355] Resolution 55/7, annex II, resolution 58/240, annex, and resolution 70/235, annex.

[356] CLCS/40/Rev.1.

[357] CLCS/11 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

[358] Resolution 70/1.

[359] Resolutions 69/117, para. 8, 70/116, para. 4, and 71/139, para. 7.

49. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, notes that there are insufficient funds available to grant a regular award for placement of a fellow in the Division, as well as in an academic institution for a period of six months, authorizes the Secretary-General, on an exceptional basis, to grant a modified award for 2017 with the available funding providing for the placement of a fellow only in the Division, expresses its commitment to further promote the importance of the Fellowship, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial contributions in support of the Fellowship so that a regular award may be granted for 2018 and beyond;

50. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme, which has awarded 130 fellowships to individuals from 75 Member States since 2004, to human resources development for developing Member States in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea and related disciplines, as well as the fostering of global interlinkages and continuing capacity development through the alumni programme, which held an Alumni Meeting in parallel with the Extraordinary Summit of the African Union on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, in Lomé, from 10 to16 October 2016, and an Alumni Meeting on Maritime Southeast Asia and South Asia: Mapping Opportunities and Challenges, in Bali, Indonesia, from 28 November to 1 December 2016, and also recognizes with appreciation the provision of a fellowship under the Strategic Award of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme in 2016;

51. *Also recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the Korea Maritime Institute to the trust fund to support the internship programmes at the Tribunal since 2011 and its continued efforts to provide education and training for capacity-building of developing countries through the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea programme;

52. *Encourages* competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme and international financial institutions and funds to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, and recognizes the funding available from the Global Environment Facility, as well as other funds allocated for projects relating to oceans;

III

Meeting of States Parties

53. *Welcomes* the reports of the resumed twenty-fifth and the twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;[332]

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the twenty-seventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention from 12 to 16 June 2017, with full conference services, including documentation, as required;

IV

Peaceful settlement of disputes

55. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

56. *Pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

57. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement relating to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and also notes the possibility, provided for in the Statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

58. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration, choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

V

The Area

59. *Reiterates* the importance of the ongoing elaboration and standardization by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

60. *Notes* that, as at 31 July 2016, the Authority had approved 28 plans of work for exploration for marine mineral resources in the Area and had entered into 15-year contracts with 16 contractors for exploration for polymetallic nodules, 5 contractors for polymetallic sulphides and 4 contractors for the exploration of cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts;

61. *Notes with appreciation* the decision taken by the Council of the Authority at its twenty-second session to approve the application for extension of an approved plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules, pursuant to section 1, paragraph 9, of the annex to the Part XI Agreement, of six of its current contractors;[360]

62. *Welcomes* the progress of the work of the Authority on the exploitation regulations, in particular the delivery of the initial working draft of the exploitation regulations during the twenty-second session of the Authority, while taking note that all States Parties and other stakeholders had been invited to provide input on the draft, and encourages the Authority to continue its work on the exploitation regulations as a matter of priority and in accordance with the list of priority deliverables endorsed by the Council of the Authority;[361]

63. *Recalls* the relevance of the advisory opinion on the responsibilities and obligations of States sponsoring persons and entities with respect to activities in the Area, issued by the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the Tribunal on 1 February 2011;[362]

64. *Recognizes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment in the Area, respectively;

65. *Recalls* the decision of the Assembly of the Authority to undertake, pursuant to article 154 of the Convention, a general and systematic review of the manner in which the international regime of the Area has operated in practice,[363] and notes in this regard the progress made so far, including the submission and consideration at the twenty-second session of the Assembly of an interim report on the progress of the review, and the further opportunity for States Parties, observers and stakeholders to provide written observations on the interim report, and looks forward to the submission of the final report on the review, together with any recommendations designed to improve the operation of the regime, to States Parties and observers before 15 April 2017;[364]

66. *Also recalls* that the environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, including the designation, on a provisional basis, of a network of areas of particular environmental interest, was approved in 2012, to be implemented over an initial three-year period so that it may be improved as more scientific, technical and environmental baseline and resource assessment data become available and that, for that purpose, the conduct of marine scientific research in those areas and the supply of available results to the Authority was encouraged,[365] and in this regard notes the request by the Council of the Authority that a workshop be held before the twenty-second session of the Authority to review the implementation of the plan and that that workshop will now be convened before the twenty-third session;[366]

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[360] Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (ISBA/22/C/21); Yuzhmorgeologiya (ISBA/22/C/22); Government of the Republic of Korea (ISBA/22/C/23); China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (ISBA/22/C/24); Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd. (ISBA/22/C/25); and Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (ISBA/22/C/26).

[361] See ISBA/21/C/20.

[362] See ISBA/17/A/9.

[363] ISBA/21/A/9/Rev.1.

[364] ISBA/22/A/11.

[365] See ISBA/18/C/22.

[366] ISBA/22/C/28, para. 9.

67. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Legal and Technical Commission to consider holding a scientific workshop, together with marine reserve/management specialists, to determine the suitability or need for amendment of the areas of particular environmental interest, and its decision to consider holding a workshop on impact reference zones and preservation reference zones, and encourages the secretariat of the Authority to work closely with that Commission to determine a suitable timing for those workshops and to ensure the broadest participation of all States Parties concerned;[367]

68. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to the decision of the Authority at its eighth session[368] for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries and the members of the Finance Committee from developing countries in the meetings of the Commission and of the Committee, and to States that have made contributions to the endowment fund for marine scientific research in the Area established by the Authority at its twelfth session,[369] for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the Area, and encourages States to make additional contributions to these funds;

69. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts of the Authority to promote its work, and notes in this regard that the last of the three series of workshops on taxonomic classification standardization was held in Belgium from 14 to 17 December 2015;

VI

Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

70. *Commends* the progress in the work of the Authority;

71. *Also commends* the work of the Tribunal since its establishment;

72. *Welcomes with satisfaction* that the Tribunal is commemorating the twentieth anniversary of its establishment, and welcomes the commemorative events, including the twentieth anniversary commemorative ceremony and the twentieth anniversary seminar, held in Hamburg, Germany, from 5 to 7 October 2016, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

73. *Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

74. *Encourages* the Authority to continue to explore ways to manage the workload resulting from the increasing number of contracts and applications, and notes the decision of the Council of the Authority at its twenty-second session, in which it requested the Secretary-General of the Authority to ensure that adequate time and resources continue to be made available to support the work of the Legal and Technical Commission, especially on priority issues;[370]

75. *Expresses concern* about the low attendance at the annual sessions of the Assembly of the Authority, noting also the concerns expressed with regard to the scheduling of annual sessions of the Authority and taking into consideration the great strides made by the Authority in adopting regulations for the prospecting and exploration of minerals in the Area, and invites the Authority to consider measures to improve the attendance at its annual sessions, including the holding of the sessions at an earlier time;

76. *Recognizes* the ongoing efforts of the Authority to organize sensitization seminars to promote awareness of its work and notes, in this regard, the holding of the tenth sensitization seminar on the work of the Authority and environmental, legal and technical challenges for deep-sea mining, in Santiago on 5 and 6 November 2015, welcomes the call to include landlocked and other geographically disadvantaged countries in the seminars, and calls upon other States and regions to consider inviting the Authority to organize such seminars in order to promote wider participation by the international community in the exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the Area;

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[367] Ibid., para. 10.

[368] ISBA/8/A/11.

[369] ISBA/12/A/11.

[370] ISBA/22/C/28, para. 14.

77. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[171] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[172]

78. *Emphasizes* the importance of the rules and staff regulations of the Tribunal in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

VII

The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

79. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

80. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

81. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (*a*);

82. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[173] preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and notes with satisfaction that additional submissions referred to in preliminary information have been filed with the Commission;

83. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission[174] and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;

84. *Takes note* of the 24 recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of coastal States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available in accordance with paragraph 11.3 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;

85. *Notes* that the consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

86. *Also notes* the considerable number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission and the demands that this places on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

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[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

[172] Ibid., vol. 2214, No. 39357.

[173] See SPLOS/183.

[174] See CLCS/93, CLCS/95 and CLCS/96.

87. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Commission at its forty-first session to continue to extend the duration of its sessions for 2017 to three sessions of seven weeks each, including plenary meetings,[375] and further notes the decision of the Commission at that session to establish new subcommissions so that nine subcommissions would actively consider submissions;[376]

88. *Notes* that the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in its decisions regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,[377] reaffirmed the obligation of States under the Convention whose experts were serving on the Commission to defray the expenses of the experts they had nominated while the experts are in performance of Commission duties, including the provision of medical coverage, and urged those States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

89. *Also notes* the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to continue the consideration of the conditions of service of the members of the Commission within the open-ended working group established by the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[345]

90. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

91. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate and timely measures to ensure secretariat services for the Commission and its subcommissions for the extended duration of time requested in the decisions of the twenty-first[344] and twenty-sixth[345] Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

93. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, consequently, to continue to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission in view of the number of its working weeks;

94. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission,[355] and encourages States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

95. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of the members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission,[355] expresses its serious concern at the critical lack of funds in this trust fund, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to it, and authorizes the use, as appropriate, of the trust fund, and in accordance with the purpose of its terms of reference, to defray the cost of the participation of the Chair of the Commission who is a member of the Commission nominated by a developing country in the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

96. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an interim measure and subject to the availability of funds in the trust fund referred to in paragraph 95 above, following the allocation of the required funds to cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission from developing States for the sessions of the Commission in 2017, to reimburse those members for the costs of medical travel insurance from that trust fund on a session-by-session basis and subject to a reasonable limit that the Secretary-General shall determine, based on the information regarding medical travel insurance available to him;

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[375] See CLCS/95.

[376] See CLCS/80 and Corr.1 and CLCS/83 and Corr.1.

[377] SPLOS/276 and SPLOS/286.

97. *Takes note* of the written information, provided by the Secretary-General in response to the request in paragraph 81 of resolution 69/245, on options for mechanisms to provide medical insurance coverage to members of the Commission, including costs, and expresses its intention to continue to consider these and other options and, if necessary, to further review the terms of reference for the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission;

98. *Notes with appreciation* that, as requested in paragraph 93 of resolution 70/235, the Secretary-General provided cost-effective, transportable, non-structural improvements to address some of the immediate working space needs of the Commission;

99. *Emphasizes* the continued need for members of the Commission to have suitable working space for their work at the sessions of the Commission and its subcommissions, recognizes, with regard to the long-term accommodation discussions, that, owing to its exceptional character, the Commission has special requirements for its working space, including the need for fit-for-purpose working space, adequate technical equipment and climate control, and needs to remain located within the same premises as the Division, and emphasizes that, in the context of any relocation of the Division or any change in its working space, full regard will be paid to these special requirements of the Commission;

100. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions of the Commission, in New York, from 30 January to 17 March 2017, from 24 July to 8 September 2017 and from 16 October to 1 December 2017, respectively, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions,[378] as well as any resumed sessions as may be required by the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources;

101. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission to convene a half-day open meeting on 10 March 2017, during its forty-third session, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of its establishment;[375]

102. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention as well as in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

103. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have exchanged views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission, and encourages States to continue to exchange views;

104. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue to support workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

VIII

Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

105. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

106. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

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[378] From 13 to 17 February and from 6 to 17 March 2017 during the forty-third session, and on 24 July and from 28 to 30 August and on 1 September 2017 during the forty-fourth session.

107. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, and urges the establishment of more centres to provide the required education and training;

108. *Also emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented in support of and with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization in relation to decent work and employment in fisheries and aquaculture and on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the work that has been conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Labour Organization on the issue of trafficking in persons and forced labour on fishing vessels;

109. *Welcomes* the consideration by the International Maritime Organization of the fair treatment of seafarers, and recalls the adoption by the Organization on 4 December 2013 of resolution A.1090(28) on the fair treatment of crew members in respect of shore leave and access to shore-side facilities;

110. *Notes* the theme for the 2016 World Maritime Day, "Shipping: indispensable to the world";

111. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,[379] as amended, and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995;

112. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Maritime Labour Convention, as amended, and also invites States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185),[380] of the International Labour Organization and to effectively implement all those Conventions, and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in this regard;

113. *Invites* States to ratify or accede to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

114. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, and underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area;

115. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1078(28) of 4 December 2013 extending the International Maritime Organization ship identification number scheme to seagoing ships of 100 gross tonnage and above, including fishing vessels;

116. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention;

117. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery against ships at sea and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives, and in this regard welcomes the Work Plan for Maritime Security 2015–2017, which was reaffirmed at the twenty-third Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, held in Vientiane on 26 July 2016;

118. *Welcomes* the adoption by the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

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[379] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1361, No. 23001.

[380] Ibid., vol. 2304, No. 41069.

119. *Acknowledges* the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in promoting international cooperation and strengthening capacity to combat the problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea;

120. *Notes* that piracy and armed robbery at sea affect a wide range of vessels engaged in maritime activities;

121. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea and, in the case of armed robbery against ships at sea, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea, and notes with appreciation the important role of the International Maritime Organization and the important contribution of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, which marked its tenth anniversary in 2016 and aspires to be recognized as a Centre of Excellence within its purpose and mandate;

122. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, by bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as by providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

123. *Encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of international law applicable to combating piracy, as reflected in the Convention, calls upon States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy, including the financing or facilitation of such acts, also taking into account other relevant instruments that are consistent with the Convention, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, with a view to developing their national legislation in this regard;

124. *Expresses grave concern* at the threats posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons;

125. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations and agencies to adopt or recommend, as appropriate, measures to protect the interest and welfare of seafarers and fishers who are victims of pirates, after their release from captivity, including their post-incident care and reintegration into society;

126. *Notes* the ongoing cooperation between the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division with respect to the compilation of national legislation on piracy, also notes that copies of national legislation received by the Secretariat have been placed on the website of the Division, and encourages the aforementioned bodies to further cooperate with the view to assisting Member States, upon request, in developing their national laws on piracy;

127. *Recognizes* continued national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives, as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to address piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery at sea, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

128. *Expresses serious concern* at the inhuman conditions hostages taken at sea face in captivity and also the adverse impact on their families, calls for the immediate release of all hostages taken at sea, and stresses the importance of cooperation among Member States on the issue of hostage-taking at sea;

129. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Hostage Support Programme, funded by the Board of the Trust Fund to Support Initiatives of States Countering Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, in securing the release of seafarers held hostage off the coast of Somalia;[381]

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[381] See S/2013/623, paras. 11–13, and S/2014/740, para. 10.

130. *Also welcomes* the recent achievements against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia resulting from efforts at the global and regional levels and the significant decrease in reported incidents of piracy off the coast of Somalia, which are at the lowest level since 2006, in that regard continues to be gravely concerned by the ongoing threat that piracy and armed robbery at sea continue to pose in the region off the coast of Somalia, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2316 (2016) of 9 November 2016, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 25 August 2010[382] and of 19 November 2012,[383] also notes that the authorization in resolution 2316 (2016) and relevant resolutions[384] apply only with respect to the situation in Somalia and shall not affect the rights, obligations or responsibilities of Member States under international law, including any rights or obligations under the Convention, with respect to any other situation, and underscores, in particular, that they shall not be considered as establishing customary international law;

131. *Notes* the continued efforts within the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia, following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008, and commends the contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

132. *Recognizes* the primary role of the Federal Government of Somalia in combating piracy and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia, acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia, and emphasizes the need to address the underlying causes of piracy and to assist Somalia and States in the region in strengthening institutional capacity to fight piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and to bring to justice those involved in such acts;

133. *Notes* the International Maritime Organization guidelines to assist in the investigation of the crimes of piracy and armed robbery against ships, revised interim guidance to shipowners, ship operators and shipmasters on the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for flag States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, interim guidance to private maritime security companies providing privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, and interim guidance for flag States on measures to prevent and mitigate Somalia-based piracy;

134. *Encourages* States to ensure that ships flying their flag apply ship security measures approved in accordance with national and international law;

135. *Notes* the efforts made by the shipping industry to cooperate with the efforts by States regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular in assisting ships that navigate in that area, and recalls the adoption on 30 November 2011 by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

136. *Also notes* the continued implementation of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct), adopted on 29 January 2009 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, in the four thematic areas of information-sharing, training, national legislation and capacity-building;

137. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continuing incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, in particular violence against innocent crew members of vessels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 2018 (2011) of 31 October 2011 and 2039 (2012) of 29 February 2012 and the statement by the President of the Council of 25 April 2016,[385] supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, recalls the primary role of States in the region to counter the threat and address the underlying causes of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, welcomes the adoption in Yaoundé on 25 June 2013 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships, and Illegal Maritime Activity

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[382] S/PRST/2010/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2010–31 July 2011*.

[383] S/PRST/2012/24; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013*.

[384] See Security Council resolution 2316 (2016), first preambular paragraph.

[385] S/PRST/2016/4.

in West and Central Africa, and calls upon States in the region to implement the Code of Conduct as soon as possible and consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

138. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1069(28) of the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on prevention and suppression of piracy, armed robbery against ships and illicit maritime activity in the Gulf of Guinea;

139. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[386] and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[386] invites States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[387] and the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[388] and urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

140. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[389] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

141. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

142. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Cooperative Mechanism) to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industries and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, notes with appreciation the convening of the ninth Cooperation Forum, in Jakarta, on 26 and 27 September 2016, the ninth Project Coordination Committee Meeting, in Jakarta, on 30 September 2016, the forty-first Tripartite Technical Experts Group Meeting, in Jakarta, on 28 and 29 September 2016, and the sixteenth and seventeenth Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meetings, in Singapore, on 14 and 15 April 2016 and 22 and 23 September 2016, respectively, the events being key pillars of the Cooperative Mechanism, also notes with appreciation the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

143. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea, as well as the livelihoods and security of coastal communities;

144. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with international law;

145. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in

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[386] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

[387] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21.

[388] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22.

[389] International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and 34, and document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MSC.202(81), introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[390]

146. *Encourages* States to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora where such trafficking occurs via maritime routes, through, inter alia, the use of applicable international legal instruments as appropriate, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the United Nations Convention against Corruption[391] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;[392]

147. *Notes with grave concern* the recent proliferation of, and endangerment of lives through, the smuggling of migrants by sea, underscores the necessity to address such situations in accordance with applicable international law, and encourages States, acting nationally or through relevant global or regional organizations, as appropriate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to flag, port and coastal States, upon request, to enhance their capabilities to prevent smuggling of migrants and human trafficking by sea;

148. *Calls upon* States, in that context, to take measures in accordance with relevant international obligations to prevent and combat all forms of trafficking in persons, to identify victims of human trafficking, including among migrant flows, and to provide trafficking victims with appropriate protection and assistance, according to their national law and policy;

149. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[393] the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[394] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[395] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

150. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

151. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon that Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

152. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

153. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[396] to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,[397] which took effect on 1 January 2010, and, in particular, to comply with the mandatory submission of a marine safety investigation report to the International Maritime Organization for every marine safety investigation conducted into a very serious marine casualty to identify trends and develop knowledge and risk-based recommendations;[397]

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[390] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[391] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[392] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[393] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[394] Ibid., vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[395] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[396] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

[397] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

154. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization at its twenty-eighth session of the resolution on guidelines on the preservation and collection of evidence following an allegation of a serious crime having taken place on board a ship or following a report of a missing person from a ship, and pastoral and medical care of persons affected;[398]

155. *Recognizes* the important work of the International Hydrographic Organization, calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming members of that Organization, encourages all its members to actively consider, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures, applications of States that wish to become members of that Organization, and urges all States to work with that Organization to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, particularly through the production and use of accurate electronic navigational charts, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

156. *Also recognizes* the importance of navigational warning services based on marine meteorological data for the safety of ships and lives at sea and the optimization of navigation routes, and notes the collaboration between the World Meteorological Organization and the International Maritime Organization for the enhancement of these services and their extension to the Arctic region;

157. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;

158. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

159. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 158 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

160. *Encourages* States to draw up plans and to establish procedures to implement the Guidelines on Places of Refuge for Ships in Need of Assistance adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 5 December 2003;[399]

161. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;[400]

162. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

163. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[401] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all measures necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on

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[398] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.1091(28).

[399] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.949(23).

[400] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

[401] Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, annex 12, International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, and International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

Maritime Search and Rescue[402] and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[403] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[404]

164. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities in accordance with international law, including the Convention, reaffirms the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase and improve their search and rescue capabilities, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional sub-centres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of cooperation for these purposes, including within the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;[405]

165. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant actors in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, notes in this regard the need to implement all relevant and applicable international instruments and the importance of cooperation among States as provided for in those instruments, and underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement in accordance with applicable international law;

166. *Invites* States to implement the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases adopted by the International Maritime Organization on 2 December 2010;[406]

167. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

168. *Also calls upon* States to take measures to protect fibre-optic submarine cables and to fully address issues relating to these cables, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

169. *Encourages* greater dialogue and cooperation among States and the relevant regional and global organizations through workshops and seminars on the protection and maintenance of fibre-optic submarine cables to promote the security of such critical communications infrastructure;

170. *Also encourages* the adoption by States of laws and regulations addressing the breaking or injury of submarine cables or pipelines beneath the high seas done wilfully or through culpable negligence by a ship flying its flag or by a person subject to its jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

171. *Affirms* the importance of maintenance, including the repair, of submarine cables, undertaken in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

172. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening, including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels and the monitoring of organizations authorized to carry out surveys and issue certificates on their behalf, taking into account the entry into force of the Code for Recognized Organizations on 1 January 2015;[407]

173. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new

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[402] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

[403] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

[404] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

[405] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, No. 23489.

[406] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 88/26/Add.1, annex 6, resolution MSC.312(88).

[407] International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65).

vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

174. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents;

175. *Notes* that audits of Member States under the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme became mandatory in January 2016 under nine mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments and are to be carried out in accordance with the Framework and the Procedures for the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme and using the International Maritime Organization Instruments Implementation Code (III Code);[408]

176. *Welcomes* the adoption by the International Maritime Organization of the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code), under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,[409] and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support the effective implementation of the requirements of the Polar Code, which will enter into force on 1 January 2017;[410]

177. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization on matters related to passenger ship safety in light of recent accidents, and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support continued efforts, including technical cooperation activities, to improve passenger ship safety;

178. *Recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased coordination and cooperation among them and increased transparency and information-sharing, making ample use of information systems, such as the International Maritime Organization Global Integrated Shipping Information System,[411] including among safety and security sectors;

179. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

IX

Marine environment and marine resources

180. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

181. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" as adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

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[408] See International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1018(26), A.1067(28), A.1068(28) and A.1070(28).

[409] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

[410] International Maritime Organization resolutions MSC.385(94) and MEPC.264(68) and related amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (resolution MSC.386(94) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (resolution MEPC.265(68).

[411] International Maritime Organization, resolutions A.1029(26) and A.1074(28).

182. *Recalls* that in "The future we want", States noted with concern that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from a number of marine and land-based sources, including shipping and land run-off, and that States committed to take action to reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems, including through the effective implementation of relevant conventions adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization, and the follow-up of relevant initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[412] as well as the adoption of coordinated strategies to this end, and that they further committed to take action, by 2025, based on collected scientific data, to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

183. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the commitment expressed in "The future we want" and based on collected scientific data, to take action by 2025 to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

184. *Notes* the discussions at the seventeenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, which focused on the theme "Marine debris, plastics and microplastics" and which, inter alia, highlighted that the size of the problem had increased exponentially since the topic of marine debris was addressed at the sixth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2005, noted that marine debris in general, and plastics in particular, were some of the greatest environmental concerns of our time, along with climate change, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity, discussed prevention and emphasized the need to address the issue, both downstream, through improved mechanisms for waste management, disposal and recycling, and upstream, by addressing consumption and production patterns, including through awareness-raising campaigns

185. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, notes with concern its findings on the acidification of the oceans and the substantial risks to marine ecosystems, especially polar ecosystems, coral reefs, plankton and other organisms which have a calcareous exoskeleton, or a shell, like crustaceans, and the potentially detrimental consequences for fisheries and livelihoods, as well as the findings of the World Meteorological Organization contained in its annual *Greenhouse Gas Bulletin*, and its decision to foster collaboration with organizations and institutions that address the carbon budget of the ocean,[413] and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular the continued work under the Convention on Biological Diversity[414] and paragraphs 6 to 10 of decision XII/23 on marine and coastal biodiversity, adopted at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 17 October 2014,[415] and to increase national, regional and global efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs;

186. *Notes with appreciation* that, at its forty-third session, held in Nairobi, from 11 to 13 April 2016, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change decided to prepare a special report on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere;[416]

187. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States called for support for initiatives that address ocean acidification and the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal ecosystems and resources and in this regard reiterated the need to work collectively to prevent further ocean acidification, as well as to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and of the communities whose livelihoods depend on them, and to support marine scientific research, monitoring and observation of ocean acidification and particularly vulnerable ecosystems, including through enhanced international cooperation in this regard;

188. *Notes*, in this regard, the report of the third International Workshop on the Socioeconomic Impacts of Ocean Acidification, on the theme "Bridging the gap between ocean acidification and economic valuation",

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[412] A/51/116, annex II.

[413] World Meteorological Organization, Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress, Geneva, 25 May–12 June 2015, resolution 46 (Cg-17).

[414] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[415] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

[416] Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, decision IPCC/XLIII-6.

organized by the Scientific Centre of Monaco and the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and notes the holding of the next workshop, in Monaco, from 15 to 17 October 2017;

189. *Notes with concern* the approximately 30 per cent increase in the acidity of ocean surface waters since the beginning of the industrial era[417] and the wide range of impacts associated with the continuing and alarming acidification of the world's oceans, and urges States to make significant efforts to tackle the causes of ocean acidification, recognizing countries' national circumstances and respective capabilities, and to further study and minimize its impacts, to enhance local, national, regional and global cooperation in this regard, including the sharing of relevant information and the development of worldwide capacity, including in developing countries, to measure ocean acidification, and to take steps to make marine ecosystems healthier and, as a result, more resilient, to the extent possible, to the impacts of ocean acidification;

190. *Recognizes* the attention paid to ocean acidification at the fourteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, and commits itself to continue to pay attention to this important issue, including by taking into account the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment and the ongoing work of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre;

191. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity and develop ways and means of adaptation, taking into account, as appropriate, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches;

192. *Notes* the vital role that coastal blue carbon ecosystems, including mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses, play in climate adaptation and mitigation through carbon sequestration, and in increasing the resilience of coastal ecosystems to ocean acidification, and the range of other benefits that these ecosystems provide, including sustainable livelihoods, food security and biodiversity conservation, and coastal protection, and encourages States and relevant international institutions and organizations to work collaboratively to protect and restore coastal blue carbon ecosystems;

193. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement[418] and its early entry into force on 4 November 2016, encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[419] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible, and recognizes the importance of raising awareness of the adverse impact of climate change on the marine environment, marine biodiversity and sea level;

194. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the hosting by the Kingdom of Morocco of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016, notes in this regard that Oceans Day was held on 12 November 2016, and welcomes the Marrakech Action Proclamation;

195. *Takes note* of the declaration adopted by the African leaders at the first Africa Action Summit, held in Marrakech on 16 November 2016, on the margin of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[420]

196. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for

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[417] As stated in the 2013 report of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the physical science basis of climate change.

[418] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[419] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[420] A/C.2/71/5, annex.

damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

197. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States noted the significant threat that alien invasive species pose to marine ecosystems and resources and committed to implement measures to prevent the introduction and manage the adverse environmental impacts of alien invasive species, including, as appropriate, those adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization;

198. *Notes with satisfaction* that the conditions for the entry into force of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[421] have been fulfilled and that that Convention will enter into force on 8 September 2017, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to it;

199. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development and application, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, and also encourages the communication of the reports of the results of such assessments to the competent international organizations in accordance with the Convention;

200. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions and the protocols thereto addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

201. *Encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

202. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impact of climate change on oceans and seas, and recalls that in "The future we want", States noted that sea level rise and coastal erosion are serious threats for many coastal regions and islands, particularly in developing countries and in this regard called upon the international community to enhance its efforts to address these challenges;

203. *Notes with concern* the severe impacts on coastal communities of extreme weather events, such as tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, and encourages cooperative actions by relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including the World Meteorological Organization, to assist States in improving forecasting of such events and its application in multi-hazard early warning systems and risk management;

204. *Notes with concern* that the health of the oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine debris, especially plastic, from land-based and marine sources, and notes that the "UNEP frontiers 2016 report" identifies microplastics as one of six key emerging environmental issues;

205. *Recognizes* the need for better understanding of the sources, amounts, pathways, distribution, trends, nature and impacts of marine debris, especially plastics and microplastics, and to examine possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent its accumulation and minimize its levels in the marine environment, and welcomes in this regard the work conducted under the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and its report entitled "Sources, fate and effects of microplastics in the marine environment – a global assessment", and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on marine plastic debris and microplastics, which reviews best-available knowledge and experiences in this regard and gives recommendations for further steps to reduce plastic litter and microplastic in the oceans;[422]

206. *Calls upon* States to implement resolution 2/11 on marine plastic litter and microplastics, adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second session, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 May 2016;[338]

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[421] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

[422] UNEP/EA.2/5.

207. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly in paragraph 21 of its resolution 2/11 to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in close cooperation with other relevant bodies and organizations, to undertake an assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and subregional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics, taking into consideration the relevant international, regional and subregional regulatory frameworks and identifying possible gaps and options for addressing them, including through regional cooperation and coordination, and to submit the assessment at the next session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, within available resources for this purpose;

208. *Welcomes* the activities of relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization and other intergovernmental organizations, to address the sources and impacts of marine debris, including through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, as well as actions relating to marine debris taken under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,[423] in particular the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention at its eleventh meeting of resolution 11.30 on management of marine debris, and notes the recent work of the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans;

209. *Encourages* States to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the biological diversity, health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, to address marine debris and microplastics in the marine environment;

210. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national and, as appropriate, regional strategies dealing with waste management, especially in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, to consider developing an integrated waste management infrastructure and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives with the aim of reducing marine debris to address this issue, including the development of cost-recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and support for measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from any source, including land-based sources, such as community-based coastal and waterway clean-up and monitoring activities, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to identify potential sources and coastal and oceanic locations where marine debris aggregates and to develop and implement joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris as well as to raise awareness of the issue of marine debris and the need to consider environmentally sound options for its removal;

211. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution from ships, including through the designation of Special Areas under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,[424] and encourages the International Maritime Organization to continue working on the prevention of pollution from ships;

212. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (annex VI - Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended;[425]

213. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Protocol);

214. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization and the resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships;[426]

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[423] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

[424] International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, annex IV (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by sewage from ships) and annex V (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships).

[425] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

[426] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

215. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;

216. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States, as a matter of priority, to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and to take all appropriate measures to fulfil the commitments of the international community embodied in the Manila Declaration on Furthering the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;[427]

217. *Encourages* States to take part in the Fourth Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, to be held in Indonesia in 2017;

218. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones and harmful algal blooms in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine run-off of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication, particularly by reducing total nutrient pollution from land-based sources and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, in particular the Global Programme of Action and the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and Global Wastewater Initiative;

219. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

220. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to take, as soon as possible, the domestic measures necessary to enable them to meet their obligations upon ratification and thereafter to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Minamata Convention on Mercury,[428] with a view to its entry into force as soon as possible;

221. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between fresh water, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[429] and of the time-bound targets in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[347] in particular the target on sanitation, and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[430]

222. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Convention) and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of ocean fertilization,[431] in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework to be developed by the scientific groups under the London Convention and Protocol, and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition of dumping in article III, paragraph 1 (*b*), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;

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[427] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DEPI)/GPA/IGR.3/6, annex.

[428] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, annex II.

[429] Resolution 55/2.

[430] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[431] International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

223. *Also recalls* the resolution of the thirty-second Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Convention and the fifth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 11 to 15 October 2010, on the Assessment Framework for Scientific Research Involving Ocean Fertilization;[432]

224. *Notes* the continued work of the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol towards a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism for ocean fertilization activities and other activities that fall within the scope of the London Convention and Protocol and have the potential to cause harm to the marine environment, and notes the resolution adopted by the eighth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 14 to 18 October 2013, on the amendment to the London Protocol to regulate the placement of matter for ocean fertilization and other marine geoengineering activities;[433]

225. *Recalls* decision IX/16 C, adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008,[434] in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol, requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes, and takes note of decision X/29, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010,[435] in which the Conference of the Parties requested parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

226. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States stressed their concern about the potential environmental impacts of ocean fertilization, recalled in this regard the decisions related to ocean fertilization adopted by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and resolved to continue addressing ocean fertilization with utmost caution, consistent with the precautionary approach;

227. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(*a*) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(*b*) Also notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and conserve marine biodiversity;

(*c*) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010, and in this context encourages States to enhance their efforts towards applying such an approach;

(*d*) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

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[432] International Maritime Organization, document LC 32/15 and Corr.1, annex 5, resolution LC-LP.2 (2010).

[433] International Maritime Organization, document LC 35/15, annex 4, resolution LP.4(8).

[434] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

[435] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

228. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to protect and restore the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities having an impact on the marine environment, to deliver on all three dimensions of sustainable development;

229. *Encourages* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to incorporate an ecosystem approach into their mandates, as appropriate, in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

230. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in paragraph 6 of its resolution 2/10, to the United Nations Environment Programme to step up its work, including through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling intersectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning;[337]

231. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with and assistance to developing States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

232. *Notes* the information compiled by the Secretariat[436] in relation to the assistance available to and measures that may be taken by developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans, as provided by States and competent international organizations and global and regional funding agencies, and urges them to provide information for the annual report of the Secretary-General and for incorporation on the website of the Division;

233. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009[437] to facilitate its entry into force;

234. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal[438] and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

235. *Notes* the role of the Basel Convention in protecting the marine environment against the adverse effects which may result from such wastes;

236. *Notes with concern* the potential for serious environmental consequences resulting from oil spill incidents or pollution incidents involving hazardous or noxious substances, urges States, consistent with international law, to cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, and share best practices, in the fields of protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation, and in this regard encourages the undertaking of and collaboration on scientific research, including marine scientific research, to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills or marine spills involving hazardous or noxious substances;

237. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990,[439] and the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000, of the International

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[436] A/63/342.

[437] International Maritime Organization, document SR/CONF/45.

[438] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

[439] Ibid., vol. 1891, No. 32194.

Maritime Organization, and in this regard to consider developing and joining regional arrangements to enhance international cooperation for combating major oil and hazardous substances pollution incidents;

238. *Encourages* States to consider becoming parties to the 2010 Protocol to the 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea;[440]

X

Marine biodiversity

239. *Reaffirms* its central role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

240. *Notes* the work and contributions of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies in the context of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

241. *Recalls*, in this regard, its resolution 69/292, entitled "Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction";

242. *Acknowledges* the rich discussions and exchange of views at the first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee established by resolution 69/292, held from 28 March to 8 April and from 26 August to 9 September 2016, respectively, and notes in this regard that the third and fourth sessions of the Preparatory Committee are scheduled to be held in 2017;

243. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the sessions of the Preparatory Committee from 27 March to 7 April and from 10 to 21 July 2017;

244. *Notes* the holding, in Singapore, on 3 and 4 February 2016, of the workshop entitled "Conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction: preparing for the PrepCom", organized by the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore;

245. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

246. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

247. *Encourages* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes and partnerships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research, taking into account, in particular, the need to create greater taxonomic capabilities;

248. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[441] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[442] and, while reiterating the central role of the General Assembly relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, notes with appreciation the complementary technical and scientific work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

249. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

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[440] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.17/10.

[441] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[442] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

250. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

251. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems and national policies in relation to marine protected areas;

252. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States reaffirmed the importance of area-based conservation measures, including marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, and noted decision X/2 of the tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, that by 2020, 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;[435]

253. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks, and calls upon States to further consider options to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

254. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available;

255. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of marine areas that may require protection, in the light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as ecosystem approaches and the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks;[347]

256. *Recalls* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its ninth meeting, adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats,[443] and notes the ongoing work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the application of the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas through the organization of a series of regional workshops;

257. *Also recalls* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed guidance for the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems through the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, and notes its ongoing work to support application of the Guidelines by States and to maintain a database of vulnerable marine ecosystems;

258. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and notes in this regard the global dialogue with regional seas organizations and regional fisheries bodies on accelerating progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, held in Seoul, from 26 to 29 September 2016;

259. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to identify and designate as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas marine areas which are recognized for their significance in terms of ecological, socioeconomic or scientific criteria and are vulnerable to damage by international shipping activities;[444]

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[443] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I and II.

[444] International Maritime Organization, Revised Guidelines for the Identification and Designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, Assembly resolution A.982(24).

260. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Seascape project, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which, in particular, seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

261. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, notes the International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting, held in Paris from 2 to 4 November 2016, and supports the elaborated programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity;

262. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the significant economic, social and environmental contributions of coral reefs, in particular to islands and other coastal States, as well as the significant vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts, including from climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, destructive fishing practices and pollution, and supported international cooperation with a view to conserving coral reef and mangrove ecosystems and realizing their social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as facilitating technical collaboration and voluntary information-sharing;

263. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification, and in this regard also encourages States to implement the priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems, adopted by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;[415]

264. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

265. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

266. *Notes* that ocean noise has potential significant adverse impacts on living marine resources, affirms the importance of sound scientific studies in addressing this matter, encourages further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on living marine resources, notes the work of States and competent international organizations in that regard, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222 and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

267. *Notes* the approval by the International Maritime Organization of Guidelines for the Reduction of Underwater Noise from Commercial Shipping to Address Adverse Impacts on Marine Life, and invites the International Maritime Organization to promote and encourage their implementation for existing ships and new vessels, when appropriate, including by promoting measures that may reduce cavitation;[445]

XI

Marine science

268. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with competent international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

269. *Encourages*, in that regard, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the Endowment Fund of the International Seabed Authority in order to promote the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the international seabed area by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in relevant programmes, initiatives and activities;

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[445] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC.1/Circ.833, annex.

270. *Notes with concern* that human-related threats, such as marine debris, ship strikes, underwater noise, persistent contaminants, coastal development activities, oil spills and discarded fishing gear, together may severely impact marine life, including its higher trophic levels, and calls upon States and competent international organizations to cooperate and coordinate their research efforts in this regard so as to reduce these impacts and preserve the integrity of the whole marine ecosystem, while fully respecting the mandates of relevant international organizations;

271. *Welcomes* the launch by the Division and the Korea Maritime Institute in cooperation with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the programme entitled "Promote and facilitate the conduct of marine scientific research under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea", with the aim of assisting developing countries, especially small island developing States, to build their capacities in the field of marine scientific research, and notes with appreciation that the first course under the programme was developed with the cooperation of the secretariat of the Pacific Community and delivered in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 7 to 11 December 2015;

272. *Invites* all relevant organizations, funds, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, in consultation with interested States, to coordinate relevant activities with regional and national marine scientific and technological centres in small island developing States, as appropriate, to ensure the more effective achievement of their objectives in accordance with relevant United Nations small island developing States development programmes and strategies;

273. *Welcomes* the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-eighth session, held in Paris from 18 to 25 June 2015, regarding the adoption of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition as an important catalyst project linking Indian Ocean processes to the global ocean and atmosphere, officially launched in Goa, India, on 4 December 2015 for an initial period of five years, invites States to participate in this initiative, and notes that two nodes of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition Joint Project Office have been established to coordinate operations of the expedition in Perth, Australia, and Hyderabad, India;

274. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention;

275. *Also notes with appreciation* the work of the Advisory Body of Experts, including its work in cooperation with the Division, on the practice of member States related to marine scientific research and transfer of marine technology within the framework of the Convention, and welcomes the decision of the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its forty-fifth session, held in Paris from 26 to 28 June 2012, that the Advisory Body will continue its work focused on priorities as tasked by Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission governing bodies in line with the terms of reference, mobilizing extrabudgetary resources when necessary;

276. *Recalls* the issuance of the revised publication entitled *Marine Scientific Research: A guide to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* in December 2010, and requests the Secretariat to continue to make efforts to publish the guide in all official languages of the United Nations;

277. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution to marine biodiversity research of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System, a free and open-access data holding and sharing facility, hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

278. *Welcomes* the increasing attention being focused on oceans as a potential source of renewable energy, and notes in this regard the summary of discussions of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting;[446]

279. *Stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United

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[446] A/67/120.

Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Council for Science, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

280. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment and operation of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, also welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, further welcomes the development and recent dissemination of the new Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and the development of Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, which will assist countries in the Pacific and the Caribbean to assess tsunami threats and issue warnings, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters;

281. *Stresses* the need for continued efforts in developing mitigation and preparedness measures for natural disasters, particularly following tsunami events caused by earthquakes, such as the 11 March 2011 event in Japan;

282. *Urges* States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to address damage to ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law, including through education and outreach about the importance and purpose of these buoys, and by strengthening these buoys against such damage, and increasing reporting of such damage;

283. *Notes* the 2016 Oceans Meeting, organized by Portugal, which focused on "Economy, Ocean Culture and Science and Innovation", held in Lisbon on 2 and 3 June 2016;

XII

Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

284. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

285. *Reaffirms* the principles guiding the Regular Process and its objective and scope as agreed upon at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in 2009;[447]

286. *Recalls* that the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations, is accountable to the General Assembly and is an intergovernmental process guided by international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other applicable international instruments, and takes into account relevant Assembly resolutions;

287. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States expressed their support for the Regular Process, looked forward to the completion of its first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment by 2014 and its subsequent consideration by the General Assembly, and encouraged consideration by States of the assessment findings at appropriate levels;

288. *Reaffirms* the importance of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (the Assessment) as the outcome of the first cycle of the Regular Process, which is available on the website of the secretariat and on the website of the World Ocean Assessment;

289. *Notes with concern* the findings of the Assessment that the world's ocean is facing major pressures simultaneously with such great impacts that the limits of its carrying capacity are being, or, in some cases, have been reached, and that delays in implementing solutions to the problems that have already been identified as threatening to degrade the world's oceans will lead, unnecessarily, to incurring greater environmental, social and economic costs;

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[447] See A/64/347, annex.

290. *Recalls* the importance of making Governments, intergovernmental organizations, the scientific community and the general public aware of the Assessment and the Regular Process, and recognizes with appreciation the activities undertaken by relevant intergovernmental organizations in this regard, in particular those of the secretariat of the Regular Process;

291. *Reiterates its encouragement* to States and its invitation to relevant intergovernmental organizations to take the Assessment fully into account as part of various processes, such as the Informal Consultative Process;

292. *Recognizes* the supporting scientific value of the Assessment, among other things, for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[358] General Assembly resolution 69/292: Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process;

293. *Recalls* the importance of ensuring that assessments, such as those included in the *Global Sustainable Development Report* and those prepared under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Regular Process, support one another and avoid unnecessary duplication, and also recalls the importance of taking into account assessments at the regional level;

294. *Also recalls* that, in the first cycle, the scope of the Regular Process focused on establishing a baseline, and decides that the scope of the second cycle would extend to evaluating trends and identifying gaps;

295. *Recognizes with appreciation* those organizations that contributed to the first cycle of the Regular Process, including the United Nations Environment Programme and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Maritime Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency, for their technical and scientific, logistical and financial support during the first cycle of the Regular Process;

296. *Recalls* its decision to launch the second cycle of the Regular Process, and stresses the importance of its successful implementation;

297. *Decides* that the second cycle will cover five years, from 2016 to 2020;

298. *Welcomes* the holding of the seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, from 3 to 9 August 2016, in accordance with paragraph 283 of resolution 70/235;

299. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its seventh meeting;[330]

300. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, in advance of the seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group, pursuant to paragraph 282 of resolution 70/235, in circulating the submissions on views on lessons learned from the first cycle received from participants in the Ad Hoc Working Group, and notes the compilation of those views by the secretariat of the Regular Process;

301. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the inventory of available information on recent and ongoing assessments and other processes at the regional and global levels relevant to the Regular Process prepared by the secretariat of the Regular Process, pursuant to the request made in paragraph 286 of resolution 70/235, on the basis of the information provided by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

302. *Expresses appreciation* for the written information prepared by the Secretary-General in reviewing the resource requirements for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process pursuant to the request made in paragraph 285 of resolution 70/235;

303. *Recalls* that the Regular Process shall be overseen and guided by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall facilitate the delivery of the outputs of the second cycle as outlined in the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;[330]

304. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important role of the Co-Chairs and the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in providing guidance during the intersessional periods, including in operationalizing the second cycle of the Regular Process;

305. *Requests* the Bureau to continue to put into practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole during the intersessional period, including by providing oversight of the delivery of the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process;

306. *Welcomes* the constitution of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process as an integral part of the second cycle of the Regular Process, requests the members of the Group of Experts who have been appointed by Member States pursuant to paragraph 287 of resolution 70/235 to serve on the Group of Experts for the duration of the second cycle in an independent and personal capacity, and urges regional groups that have not yet done so to appoint experts to the Group of Experts in accordance with paragraph 287, taking into account the need to ensure geographical distribution and adequate expertise in socioeconomic disciplines;

307. *Invites* the Group of Experts and other relevant partners to begin working on the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process as soon as possible;

308. *Recalls* its invitation in paragraph 288 of resolution 70/235 to individuals who served in the Group of Experts during the first cycle of the Regular Process to provide advice, as required, to the Bureau and the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole until the Group of Experts for the second cycle has been appointed;

309. *Encourages* the Group of Experts to extend an invitation to the members of the Group of Experts as well as members of the Pool of Experts of the first cycle of the Regular Process, as appropriate, to contribute to the drafting and review of the technical abstract(s);

310. *Requests* the Group of Experts to review, for their applicability to the second cycle of the Regular Process, the terms of reference[448] and working methods of the Group of Experts of the first cycle of the Regular Process and the Guidance for contributors, and to modify them, as appropriate, so as to ensure, among other things, continuous full membership and engagement by the members of the Group of Experts, and inform the Bureau for subsequent endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole;

311. *Requests* the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to develop a mechanism to establish a Pool of Experts for the second cycle of the Regular Process, including by inviting individuals who served in the Pool of Experts during the first cycle of the Regular Process to indicate to the secretariat of the Regular Process whether they would be interested in serving in the Pool of Experts for the second cycle;

312. *Invites* States to designate, by 31 May 2017, national focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, in particular with respect to the nomination process for additional experts to the Pool of Experts, swift communication between the scientific community, the Group of Experts, the Pool of Experts, the Bureau and the secretariat of the Regular Process and awareness raising;

313. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization and relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of the second cycle of the Regular Process with regard to the following activities: awareness-raising, the identification of experts for the Pool of Experts, technical and scientific support to the Bureau and the Group of Experts, hosting workshops and meetings of the writing teams, capacity-building and the scoping process for the assessment(s) of the second cycle;

314. *Invites* relevant intergovernmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the activities of the second cycle;

315. *Urges* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund[449] and to make other contributions to the Regular Process;

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[448] See A/67/87, annex III.

[449] See resolution 69/245, para. 278.

316. *Requests* the Secretary-General to secure the necessary resources, including the option of the regular budget of the Organization, for the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, as adopted by the seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, in accordance with established procedures and within the respective purview of relevant bodies;

317. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in 2017, two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of no more than five days total duration, one on 17 and 18 April 2017 to consider the Technical Abstracts in accordance with the programme of work for the period 2017–2020 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, and another from 6 to 8 September 2017;

XIII

Regional cooperation

318. *Notes* that there have been a number of initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention, also notes in that context the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

319. *Notes with appreciation* efforts at the regional level to further the implementation of the Convention and respond, including through capacity-building, to issues related to maritime safety and security, the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity;

320. *Welcomes* the adoption of the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[450] and the new modalities set forth for strengthened action on a range of small island developing States challenges and priorities, including challenges related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, and the preservation of the marine environment, and reaffirms its commitment to work with small island developing States towards full implementation of the Samoa Pathway to ensure its success;

321. *Invites* States and international organizations to enhance their cooperation to better protect the marine environment;

322. *Notes*, in this regard, at its seventy-first session, the memorandum of understanding between the Mediterranean Action Plan under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean and the memorandum of understanding between the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution and the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan;

323. *Recognizes* the results of the International Polar Year, 2007–2008 with particular emphasis on new knowledge about the linkages between environmental change in the polar regions and global climate systems, and encourages States and scientific communities to strengthen their cooperation in this respect;

324. *Welcomes* regional cooperation, and in this regard notes the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as an initiative to enhance cooperation among coastal States in the Pacific island region to foster marine conservation and sustainable development;

325. *Notes with appreciation* the various cooperative efforts displayed by States at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard welcomes initiatives, such as the Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem;

326. *Acknowledges* relevant cooperation among the members of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic;

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[450] Resolution 69/15, annex.

327. *Recalls* the decision of the Assembly of the African Union in January 2015 to adopt Agenda 2063, also recalls that the African Union launched the Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015–2025), and notes that the African Day of the Seas and Oceans is to be celebrated annually on 25 July;

328. *Notes* the adoption of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 by the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,[451] following the comprehensive 10-year review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[452] and also notes the need for cooperation to address the development needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries associated with, inter alia, their lack of direct territorial access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from world markets, in line with the objectives of the Vienna Programme of Action;

329. *Also notes* the efforts of the Sargasso Sea Alliance, led by the Government of Bermuda, to raise awareness of the ecological significance of the Sargasso Sea;

XIV

Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

330. *Welcomes* the report of the Co-Chairs on the work of the Informal Consultative Process at its seventeenth meeting, which focused on the theme of marine debris, plastics and microplastics;[331]

331. *Recognizes* the role of the Informal Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[333] and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

332. *Welcomes* the work of the Informal Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

333. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Informal Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Informal Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development, and recommends that the Informal Consultative Process devise a transparent, objective and inclusive process for the selection of topics and panellists so as to facilitate the work of the General Assembly during informal consultations concerning the annual resolution on oceans and the law of the sea;

334. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Informal Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Informal Consultative Process;

335. *Decides* to continue the Informal Consultative Process for the next two years, in accordance with resolution 54/33, with a further review of its effectiveness and utility by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

336. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York from 15 to 19 May 2017, to provide it with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

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[451] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[452] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

337. *Expresses its continued serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

338. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in order to cover the costs of their travel, and shall also be eligible to receive daily subsistence allowance subject to the availability of funds after the travel costs of all other eligible representatives from those countries mentioned in paragraph 310 above have been covered;

339. *Also decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Informal Consultative Process shall focus its discussions at its eighteenth meeting, in 2017, on the theme "The effects of climate change on oceans" and at its nineteenth meeting, in 2018, on the theme "Anthropogenic underwater noise";

XV

Coordination and cooperation

340. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

341. *Expresses its concern* at the desecration of graves at sea and the looting of wrecks of ships constituting such graves, and calls upon States to cooperate, as appropriate, to prevent the looting and desecration of wrecks of ships constituting graves in order to ensure that proper respect is given to all human remains located in maritime waters, consistent with international law, including, as appropriate, the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, among parties thereto;

342. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

343. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

344. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including, where appropriate, through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

345. *Recognizes* the work undertaken by UN-Oceans, in particular the inventory of mandates, under the revised terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans, and with the United Nations Legal Counsel/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as the focal point of UN-Oceans, and, as an interim measure, in this regard invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial earmarked contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to disburse funds from such contributions to that trust fund for the purposes of the maintenance of an online searchable database for an inventory of the mandates of UN-Oceans members and priorities approved by the respective governing bodies of the participating organizations of UN-Oceans, with a view to identifying possible areas of collaboration and synergy, as well as for travel associated with the performance of the functions of the focal point;

346. *Reaffirms* its decision to review the terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans at its seventy-second session in the light of the work of UN-Oceans;

XVI

Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

347. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual report on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

348. *Notes with satisfaction* the eighth observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day in 2016,[455] recognizes with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Division in organizing its celebration, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the commemorative event to be held during the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans and seas and marine resources for sustainable development, the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events;

349. *Recalls* the responsibilities and functions entrusted to the Secretary-General in the Convention and in the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, notes the increased number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings in resolution 69/292 and in relation to the support to be provided by the Division as secretariat of the Regular Process during the second cycle of the Regular Process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

350. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication activities of the Division, in particular through the publication of *The Law of the Sea: A Select Bibliography* and the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*;

XVII

Seventy-second session of the General Assembly

351. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and to prepare a separate section of the report on the topic that is the focus of the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process;

352. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

353. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 351 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

354. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea, decides that the period of the informal consultations on that resolution should not exceed a maximum of two weeks in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report referred to in paragraph 351 above, requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit text proposals for inclusion in the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations at the earliest possible date;

355. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

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[455] By its resolution 63/111, the General Assembly designated 8 June as World Oceans Day.

RESOLUTION 71/260

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/71/L.25 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

71/260. Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1759 (XVII) of 26 October 1962, 69/246 of 29 December 2014 and 70/11 of 19 November 2015,

Underlining the shared responsibility to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him,

Recognizing that a further inquiry or investigation would be necessary to finally establish the facts of the matter,

Expressing appreciation for the continued commitment of the Secretary-General to the search for the truth in this regard,

Acknowledging the note by the Secretary-General of 17 August 2016 and his assessment of the way forward,[454]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint an eminent person to review the potential new information, including that which may be available from Member States, to assess its probative value, to determine the scope that any further inquiry or investigation should take and, if possible, to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted;

2. *Urges* all Member States to release any relevant records in their possession and to provide to the Secretary-General relevant information related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him;

3. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that any relevant records related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him that remain classified, more than 50 years after the fact, are declassified or otherwise made available for review;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore the feasibility of establishing a central archival holding or other holistic arrangement for records and archives related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him and to provide to the General Assembly concrete and actionable recommendations thereon;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly before the end of its seventy-first session on any further progress made;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him".

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[454] A/70/1017.

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RESOLUTION 71/26

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/442, para. 7)[1]

71/26. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) in Cairo on 11 April 1996,[2]

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[3] in which it was emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[4] in which the Council affirmed that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[2] on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Welcomes* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), on 4 November 2010, the second Conference of States Parties, on 12 and 13 November 2012, and the third Conference of States Parties, on 29 and 30 May 2014, all held in Addis Ababa;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[2] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[5] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (*b*) and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and encourages them to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Georgia, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Portugal.

[2] A/50/426, annex.

[3] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[4] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996* (S/INF/52).

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 71/27

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/443, para. 7)[6]

71/27. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[7] was opened for signature in Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, the General Assembly welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

Considering that the fiftieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco will be commemorated at the ministerial level in Mexico City on 14 February 2017, at the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling also that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco notes that the establishment of militarily denuclearized zones is closely linked with the maintenance of peace and security in the respective regions and that the military denuclearization of vast geographical zones, adopted by the sovereign decision of the States comprised therein, will exercise a beneficial influence on other regions where similar conditions exist,

Considering that, 50 years following its adoption, the Treaty of Tlatelolco remains a living instrument and a source of inspiration for the creation of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Taking note of the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of peace by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States at its second summit, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014, and the commitment undertaken in this context by the States of the region to continue to promote nuclear disarmament as a priority objective,[8]

Highlighting the fact that the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which is in force for all 33 sovereign States of the region, consolidated the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Recognizing the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga,[9] Bangkok[10] and Pelindaba[11] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as the Antarctic Treaty[12] and the declaration by Mongolia of its nuclear-weapon-free status, to the achievement of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,

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[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[8] See A/68/914, annex.

[9] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[11] A/50/426, annex.

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

Recalling all relevant United Nations resolutions in support of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Highlighting the value of enhancing cooperation across the nuclear-weapon-free zones, including through the holding of joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to the treaties establishing such zones,

Welcoming the convening of Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and their contribution to achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Noting that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in its final document,[13] encouraged the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and the fostering of cooperation and enhanced consultation mechanisms among the existing nuclear-weapon-free zones through the establishment of concrete measures, in order to fully implement the principles and objectives of the relevant nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, and commended the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean for its leadership in this field,

Reaffirming the importance of the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring full compliance with and implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as cooperation with the entities of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[7] is in force for all sovereign States of the region;

2. *Also welcomes* the commemoration at the ministerial level of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, to be held in Mexico City on 14 February 2017, at the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. *Encourages once again* States parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco to review their interpretative declarations thereto, in accordance with action 9 of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[14] reaffirming and recognizing the legitimate interests of the States that comprise the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean in receiving full and unequivocal security assurances from the nuclear-weapon States;

4. *Encourages* the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean to continue the activities and efforts that they conduct jointly with the Agency, inter alia:

(*a*) To take note of the efforts that are being undertaken in a multilateral context to identify and seek effective measures that allow for compliance with disarmament and non-proliferation commitments;

(*b*) To enhance cooperation with States parties and signatories to treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia;

(*c*) To promote activities on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session an item entitled "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

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[13] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I-III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I-III)).

[14] Ibid., vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, section I, entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/28

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/445, para. 7),[15] by a recorded vote of 181 to none, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Ukraine

71/28. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014 and 70/237 of 23 December 2015,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Bearing in mind the results of the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003, and at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[16] and recalling its resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

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[15] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

[16] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Noting also the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45, 61/54, 62/17, 63/37, 64/25, 65/41, 66/24, 67/27, 68/243, 69/28 and 70/237,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[17]

Considering that the assessments of Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

Welcoming the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the relevant outcome report transmitted by the Secretary-General,[18]

Stressing the importance of the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,

Welcoming the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2013[19] and 2015[18] reports, that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment, that voluntary and non-binding norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States in the use of information and communications technologies can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and that, given the unique attributes of such technologies, additional norms can be developed over time,

1. *Calls upon* Member States:

(*a*) To be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2015 report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security;[18]

(*b*) To promote further, at multilateral levels, the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through further examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

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[17] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/56/164 and Add.1, A/57/166 and Add.1, A/58/373, A/59/116 and Add.1, A/60/95 and Add.1, A/61/161 and Add.1, A/62/98 and Add.1, A/64/129 and Add.1, A/65/154, A/66/152 and Add.1, A/67/167, A/68/156 and Add.1, A/69/112 and Add.1, A/70/172 and Add.1 and A/71/172.

[18] A/70/174.

[19] A/68/98.

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

(*d*) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

4. *Welcomes* the commencement of the work of the Group of Governmental Experts, established by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 70/237 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, which, in accordance with its mandate, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report, should continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings, existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, as well as norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States, confidence-building measures and capacity-building and the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 above, and submit a report on the results of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 71/29

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/446, para. 7)[20]

71/29. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010, 66/25 of 2 December 2011, 67/28 of 3 December 2012, 68/27 of 5 December 2013, 69/29 of 2 December 2014 and 70/24 of 7 December 2015 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[21]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties directly concerned are called upon to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

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[20] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[21] Resolution S-10/2.

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 70/24,[22]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[23]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(60)/RES/15, adopted on 29 September 2016 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixtieth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[21] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 70/24;[22]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

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[22] A/71/135 (Part I) and Add.1.

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[24] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 71/30

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/447, para. 7),[25] by a recorded vote of 128 to none, with 57 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/30. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

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[24] A/45/435.

[25] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Libya, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[26] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[27] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[28] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[29] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[30]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it is stated, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[31] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[32] which was reiterated at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

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[26] Resolution S-10/2.

[27] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[29] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[30] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[31] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), sect. III.F.

[32] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010, 66/26 of 2 December 2011, 67/29 of 3 December 2012, 68/28 of 5 December 2013, 69/30 of 2 December 2014 and 70/25 of 7 December 2015,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 71/31

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/448, para. 9),[illegible] by a recorded vote of 182 to none, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania,

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[illegible] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe.

Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, Palau, South Sudan, United States of America

71/31. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[34]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[35] in which it is stated that, in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, the most recent of which is resolution 70/26 of 7 December 2015, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[36]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

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[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[35] Resolution S-10/2.

[36] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), para. 76.

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016,

Noting the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects in 2008 and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[17]

Taking note of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[34]

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible during its 2017 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

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[17] See CD/1839 and CD/1985.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTION 71/32

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/448, para. 9),[38] by a recorded vote of 130 to 4, with 48 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Georgia, Israel, Ukraine, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

71/32. No first placement of weapons in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space and of outer space turning into an arena for military confrontation, and bearing in mind the importance of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[39]

Conscious that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Reaffirming that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with the existing legal regime providing for the peaceful use of outer space,

Reaffirming its recognition that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee prevention of an arms race in outer space and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime,

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Honduras, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

Welcoming, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[40] and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[41]

Considering that transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities are an integral part of the draft treaty referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 69/32 of 2 December 2014 and 70/27 of 7 December 2015, and its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, confirm the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Noting the importance of the political statements made by a number of States[42] that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of the objective to prevent an arms race in outer space and the willingness of States to contribute to reaching this common goal;

2. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,[43] has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement, or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

3. *Urges* an early commencement of substantive work based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[40] under the agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space";

4. *Stresses* that, while such an agreement is not yet concluded, other measures may contribute to ensuring that weapons are not placed in outer space;

5. *Encourages* all States, especially space-faring nations, to consider the possibility of upholding as appropriate a political commitment not to be the first to place weapons in outer space;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space".

RESOLUTION 71/33

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[44] by a recorded vote of 166 to 1, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire,

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[40] See CD/1839.

[41] See CD/1985.

[42] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[43] See resolution S-10/2.

[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

71/33. The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the increasing regional and global security challenges caused, inter alia, by the ongoing proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its role and responsibility in the field of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the significance of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Welcoming the adoption of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation on 25 November 2002 at The Hague,[45] and convinced that the Code of Conduct will contribute to enhancing transparency and confidence among States,

Recalling its resolutions 59/91 of 3 December 2004, 60/62 of 8 December 2005, 63/64 of 2 December 2008, 65/73 of 8 December 2010, 67/42 of 3 December 2012 and 69/44 of 2 December 2014 entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation",

Recalling also that the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent resolutions, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Confirming its commitment to the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, as contained in the annex to its resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996,

Recognizing that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes, but that in reaping such benefits and in conducting related cooperation they must not contribute to the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction,

Noting the efforts of subscribing States, undertaken in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, to raise awareness of the Code of Conduct through the preparation of educational material,

Mindful of the need to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

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[45] A/57/724, enclosure.

1. *Welcomes* the fact that 138 States have so far subscribed to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation[45] as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Also welcomes* the advancement of the universalization process of the Code of Conduct, and underscores the importance of further advancing, at both the regional and the international levels, the universalization of the Code of Conduct;

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct, in particular those possessing space launch vehicle and ballistic missile capabilities and those developing corresponding national programmes, to do so, bearing in mind the right to use space for peaceful purposes;

4. *Encourages* States that have already subscribed to the Code of Conduct to make efforts to increase participation in the Code and to further improve its implementation;

5. *Notes* progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct, which contributes to enhancing transparency and building confidence among States through the submission of pre-launch notifications and annual declarations on space launch vehicle and ballistic missile policies, and underlines the importance of further steps in this direction;

6. *Encourages* the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, to take the measures necessary to avoid contributing to such delivery systems, and to continue to deepen the relationship between the Code of Conduct and the United Nations;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation".

RESOLUTION 71/34

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[46] by a recorded vote of 164 to none, with 20 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

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[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium and Chile.

71/34. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005, 61/84 of 6 December 2006, 62/41 of 5 December 2007, 63/42 of 2 December 2008, 64/56 of 2 December 2009, 65/48 of 8 December 2010, 66/29 of 2 December 2011, 67/32 of 3 December 2012, 68/30 of 5 December 2013, 69/34 of 2 December 2014 and 70/55 of 7 December 2015,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or injure thousands of people – women, girls, boys and men – every year, and which place people living in affected areas at risk and hinder the development of their communities,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost to ensure assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[47] and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,

Recalling the first to fourteenth meetings of the States parties to the Convention, held in Maputo (1999), Geneva (2000), Managua (2001), Geneva (2002), Bangkok (2003), Zagreb (2005), Geneva (2006), the Dead Sea (2007), Geneva (2008 and 2010), Phnom Penh (2011) and Geneva (2012, 2013 and 2015), and the First, Second and Third Review Conferences of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004), Cartagena, Colombia (2009), and Maputo (2014),

Recalling also that, at the Third Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, the international community reviewed the implementation of the Convention and the States parties adopted a declaration and an action plan for the period 2014–2019 to support enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention,

Noting with satisfaction that 162 States have ratified or acceded to the Convention and have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization and norms,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in some conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[47] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* the one remaining State that has signed but has not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the action plan for the period 2014–2019;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

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[47] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

7. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

8. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Fifteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, to be held in Santiago during the week of 28 November to 2 December 2016, and to participate in the future programme of meetings of the States parties to the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention and, on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Sixteenth Meeting of the States Parties as observers;

10. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues and from recently implemented United Nations financial and accounting practices;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 71/35

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[46]

71/35. Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the contribution of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, adopted on the initiative and with the agreement of the States concerned, to the improvement of the overall international peace and security situation,

Convinced that the relationship between the development of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and the international security environment can also be mutually reinforcing,

Considering the important role that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms can also play in creating favourable conditions for progress in the field of disarmament,

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[46] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

Recognizing that the exchange of information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

Recalling its resolutions 59/92 of 3 December 2004, 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/79 of 6 December 2006, 63/57 of 2 December 2008, 65/63 of 8 December 2010, 67/49 of 3 December 2012 and 69/64 of 2 December 2014,

1. *Welcomes* all confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms already undertaken by Member States, as well as the information on such measures voluntarily provided;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to adopt and apply confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and to provide information in that regard;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to continue the dialogue on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment and continuing operation of the database containing information provided by Member States, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the database updated and to assist Member States, at their request, in the organization of seminars, courses and workshops aimed at enhancing the knowledge of new developments in this field;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 65/63;[49]

6. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the report, including the importance of tailoring confidence-building measures agreed in regional and subregional or bilateral contexts to the particular security concerns of States within a region and subregion;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms".

RESOLUTION 71/36

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[50] by a recorded vote of 184 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo,

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[49] A/66/176.

[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Niger, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: Iran (Islamic Republic of)

71/36. Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities

The General Assembly,

Noting the threat to international peace and security posed by illicit brokering activities circumventing the international arms control and non-proliferation framework,

Concerned that, if proper measures are not taken, the illicit brokering of arms in all its aspects will adversely affect the maintenance of international peace and security, and prolong conflicts, and could be an obstacle to sustainable economic and social development and result in illicit transfers of conventional arms and the acquisition of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors,

Recognizing the need for Member States to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, which covers not only conventional arms but also materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Reaffirming that efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities should not hamper the legitimate arms trade and international cooperation with respect to materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, in particular paragraph 3, in which the Council determined that all States shall develop and maintain appropriate effective border controls and law enforcement efforts to detect, deter, prevent and combat, including through international cooperation when necessary, illicit trafficking in and brokering of materials related to nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law, and taking note of the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) conducted in 2016,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/62 of 2 December 2014,

Noting international efforts to prevent and combat illicit arms brokering, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[51] and the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[52]

Recognizing the importance of States parties to the Arms Trade Treaty[53] taking measures, pursuant to their national laws, to regulate brokering taking place under their jurisdiction, in accordance with article 10 of the Treaty,

Taking note of Security Council resolutions 2117 (2013) of 26 September 2013 and 2220 (2015) of 22 May 2015 on small arms and light weapons, in which the Council encouraged cooperation and information-sharing on suspect brokering activities to address the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons,

Taking note also of the report issued on 30 August 2007 by the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 60/81 of 8 December 2005 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons[54] as an international initiative within the framework of the United Nations,

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[51] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[52] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[53] See resolution 67/234 B.

[54] A/62/163 and Corr.1.

Welcoming efforts to implement the Programme of Action and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[55] including the holding of the second Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the Programme of Action in New York, from 1 to 5 June 2015,

Welcoming also, in this regard, the outcome document, adopted by consensus, of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action, held in New York from 6 to 10 June 2016,[56] including as it relates to illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, and noting its value as a document for consideration as part of broader preparations for the Third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action, to be held in 2018,

Underlining the inherent right of Member States to determine the specific scope and content of domestic regulations in accordance with their legislative frameworks and export control systems, consistent with international law,

Welcoming the efforts made by Member States to implement laws and/or administrative measures to regulate arms brokering within their legal systems,

Encouraging cooperation among Member States to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in nuclear materials, and recognizing in this regard existing efforts at all levels, consistent with international law,

Welcoming the International Conference on Nuclear Security to be held by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, from 5 to 9 December 2016, noting that such continued efforts will usefully build upon the outcomes of processes including the fourth Nuclear Security Summit, held in Washington, D.C., on 31 March and 1 April 2016,

Encouraging Member States in a position to do so to share their experience and practices in relation to the control of illicit brokering and to further enhance international cooperation to this end,

Noting with satisfaction the awareness-raising activities of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, which contribute to efforts aimed at preventing and combating illicit brokering activities,

Acknowledging the constructive role that civil society can play in raising awareness and providing practical expertise on the prevention of illicit brokering activities,

1. *Underlines* the commitment of Member States to address the threat posed by illicit brokering activities;

2. *Encourages* Member States to fully implement relevant international treaties, instruments and resolutions to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities, and implement, where appropriate, the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;[54]

3. *Calls upon* Member States to establish appropriate national laws and/or measures to prevent and combat the illicit brokering of conventional arms and materials, equipment and technology that could contribute to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, in a manner consistent with international law;

4. *Acknowledges* that national efforts to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities can be reinforced by such efforts at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and assistance, capacity-building and information-sharing in preventing and combating illicit brokering activities, and encourages Member States to take such measures as appropriate and in a manner consistent with international law;

6. *Encourages* Member States to draw, where appropriate, on the relevant expertise of civil society in developing effective measures to prevent and combat illicit brokering activities;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities".

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[55] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

[56] A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/37

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[57] by a recorded vote of 126 to 49, with 10 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, China, Georgia, Japan, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, Serbia, Uzbekistan

71/37. Reducing nuclear danger

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomalies or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to de-alerting and de-targeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States would have a positive impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

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[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[58] and by the international community,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons[59] that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also the call, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[60] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls for* a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through de-alerting and de-targeting nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 above;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the measures necessary to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of its resolution 70/37 of 7 December 2015;[61]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,[62] and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[60] to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RESOLUTION 71/38

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[63]

71/38. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/36 of 7 December 2015,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

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[58] Resolution S-10/2.

[59] A/51/218, annex.

[60] Resolution 55/2.

[61] A/71/126.

[62] A/56/400, para. 3.

[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

Welcoming the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[64]

Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[65] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005, and their entry into force on 8 May 2016,

Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the need for international cooperation in combating it, and that the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism has been launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America,

Noting further the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 12 and 13 April 2010 in Washington, D.C., on 26 and 27 March 2012 in Seoul, on 24 and 25 March 2014 in The Hague and on 31 March and 1 April 2016 in Washington, D.C.,

Noting the holding of the high-level meeting on countering nuclear terrorism, with a focus on strengthening the legal framework, in New York on 28 September 2012,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[66]

Taking note of the holding by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, in Vienna from 1 to 5 July 2013, and the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixtieth regular session,

Taking note also of the tenth anniversary of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 September 2003,

Taking note further of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 16 September 2005[67] and the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[68] on 8 September 2006,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 70/36,[69]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

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[64] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[65] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[66] See A/59/361.

[67] Resolution 60/1.

[68] Resolution 60/288.

[69] A/71/122 and Add.1.

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[69] and encourages States parties to the Convention to review its implementation on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of its entry into force;

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

RESOLUTION 71/39

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[70]

71/39. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007, 63/45 of 2 December 2008, 64/43 of 2 December 2009, 65/47 of 8 December 2010, 66/38 of 2 December 2011, 67/61 of 3 December 2012, 68/55 of 5 December 2013, 69/46 of 2 December 2014 and 70/42 of 7 December 2015 on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, in which the General Assembly calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

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[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay.

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament, and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socioeconomic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[71]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

RESOLUTION 71/40

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[72]

71/40. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December

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[71] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Turkey.

2007, 63/43 of 2 December 2008, 64/41 of 2 December 2009, 65/45 of 8 December 2010, 66/36 of 2 December 2011, 67/57 of 3 December 2012, 68/54 of 5 December 2013, 69/45 of 2 December 2014 and 70/43 of 7 December 2015 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[73]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[74]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Regional disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/41

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[75] by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark,

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[73] Resolution S-10/2.

[74] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Italy, Mali, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine.

Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Bhutan, Russian Federation, South Sudan

71/41. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007, 63/44 of 2 December 2008, 64/42 of 2 December 2009, 65/46 of 8 December 2010, 66/37 of 2 December 2011, 67/62 of 3 December 2012, 68/56 of 5 December 2013, 69/47 of 2 December 2014 and 70/44 of 7 December 2015,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[76] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

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[76] See CD/1064.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RESOLUTION 71/42

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[77]

71/42. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009, 65/68 of 8 December 2010, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 69/38 of 2 December 2014 and 70/53 of 7 December 2015, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[78]

Reaffirming the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming also that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[79] and the submission of its updated version[80] in 2014,

Noting further that, since 2004, several States[81] have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

Noting the presentation by the European Union of a draft of a non-legally binding international code of conduct for outer space activities,

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[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe.

[78] A/48/305 and Corr.1.

[79] See CD/1839.

[80] See CD/1985.

[81] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Recognizing the work that takes place within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, which makes a significant contribution to the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

Noting the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

Welcoming the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the group of governmental experts convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

Noting the consideration of that study by the Committee during its fifty-eighth session, in 2015, at which it found that the Committee had a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States, as well as in ensuring that outer space was maintained for peaceful purposes,[82]

Taking note of the special report by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) on the implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, as submitted to the Committee at its fifty-ninth session, in 2016,[83]

Noting the endorsement by the Committee of the recommendation made by its Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fifth session to hold a joint half-day panel discussion in a plenary meeting of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) during the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, in 2017,[84] as a joint contribution to the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[85]

Welcoming resolution 186 of 7 November 2014 on strengthening the role of the International Telecommunication Union with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 20 October to 7 November 2014,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities,[86] considered by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through the relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to promoting the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures, to hold regular discussions in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament on the prospects for their implementation;

4. *Requests* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system, to which, in accordance with resolution 68/50, the report was circulated, to assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

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[82] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/70/20), para. 64.

[83] A/AC.105/1116.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 273, and A/AC.105/1113, annex I, para. 19 (*c*).

[85] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[86] A/68/189.

6. *Welcomes* the joint ad hoc meeting of the First and Fourth Committees on 22 October 2015 on possible challenges to space security and sustainability, convened in accordance with the report, and the substantive exchange of opinions on various aspects of security in outer space that took place during the meeting;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the full range of conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the coordination of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities in the United Nations system, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

RESOLUTION 71/43

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[87]

71/43. Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998, 55/33 S of 20 November 2000, 57/67 of 22 November 2002, 59/73 of 3 December 2004, 61/87 of 6 December 2006, 63/56 of 2 December 2008, 65/70 of 8 December 2010, 67/52 of 3 December 2012 and 69/63 of 2 December 2014,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[88]

Bearing in mind its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

Proceeding from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

Convinced that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia contributes to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region and promotes Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

Welcoming the declaration by Mongolia regarding its nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[89]

Welcoming also the joint declaration of the five nuclear-weapon States on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[90]

Noting that the declarations referred to above have been transmitted to the Security Council,

Welcoming the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status[91] as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

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[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, China, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

[88] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[89] A/67/517-S/2012/760, annex.

[90] A/67/393-S/2012/721, annex.

[91] See A/55/56-S/2000/160.

Bearing in mind the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status[92] as a contribution to the implementation of resolution 53/77 D, as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Mindful of the support expressed for Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the Thirteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[93] the Fourteenth Conference, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[94] the Fifteenth Summit Conference, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[95] the Sixteenth Conference, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[96] and the Seventeenth Conference, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and by Ministers at the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 29 and 30 July 2008,[97] the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[98] and the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference, held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014,

Noting that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco,[99] Rarotonga,[100] Bangkok[101] and Pelindaba[102] expressed their recognition and full support for Mongolia's international nuclear-weapon-free status at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,[103]

Noting also that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia expressed support for Mongolia's policy at the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 30 April 2010, and at the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 24 April 2015,

Noting further other measures taken to implement resolution 69/63 at the national and international levels,

Welcoming Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[104]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[104]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 69/63;[105]

3. *Welcomes* the declarations of 17 September 2012 by Mongolia[89] and the five nuclear-weapon States[90] on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the enhancement of confidence and predictability in the region;

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[92] A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

[93] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

[94] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[95] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[96] See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[97] See A/62/929, annex I.

[98] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex V.

[99] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[100] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[101] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[102] A/50/426, annex.

[103] See A/60/121, annex III.

[104] A/71/161.

[105] Ibid., sect. IV.

4. *Welcomes and supports* the measures taken by Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen this status;

5. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 69/63, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the measures necessary to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its independent foreign policy, its economic security and its ecological balance, as well as its nuclear-weapon-free status;

8. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 7 above;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

RESOLUTION 71/44

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[106] by a recorded vote of 156 to none, with 29 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe

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[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

71/44. Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999, 55/33 U of 20 November 2000, 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001, 57/75 of 22 November 2002, 58/54 of 8 December 2003, 60/226 of 23 December 2005, 61/77 of 6 December 2006, 63/69 of 2 December 2008, 64/54 of 2 December 2009, 66/39 of 2 December 2011 and 68/43 of 5 December 2013, entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming, in that regard, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Register as an important element in the contribution of the United Nations to international peace and security,

Welcoming also the consolidated reports of the Secretary-General on the Register, which include the returns of Member States for 2012,[107] 2013[108] and 2014,[109]

Welcoming further the 2016 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, prepared with the assistance of the group of governmental experts,[110] in particular the recommendation that the Secretary-General appeal to Member States in a position to do so to provide information on their international transfers of small arms and light weapons in their annual report to the Register and the recommendation that the seven plus one formula be utilized on a trial basis for the period leading up to the deliberations of the next group of governmental experts, as the diversion of licit transfers of small arms and light weapons continues to pose a threat to peace and security, undermines human security and exacerbates the illicit trade in wildlife, and as the transparency of licit transfers of small arms and light weapons can contribute to tackling these problems and building confidence and trust between Member States,

Welcoming the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Welcoming also the adoption by the General Assembly and the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty[111] on 2 April 2013 and 24 December 2014, respectively, and noting that the Treaty remains open for accession by any State that has not signed it,

Welcoming in particular the increase in transparency in armaments that is provided by the Treaty,

Noting the focused discussions on transparency in armaments that took place in the Conference on Disarmament in 2013, 2014 and 2015,

Expressing its concern at the decline in reporting to the Register,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms its determination* to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

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[107] A/68/138 and Add.1.

[108] A/69/124 and Add.1.

[109] A/70/168 and Add.1.

[110] See A/71/259.

[111] See resolution 67/234 B.

2. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained in the consensus report of the 2016 group of governmental experts;[110]

3. *Decides* to adapt the scope of the Register in conformity with the recommendations contained in the 2016 report of the Secretary-General;[110]

4. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 31 May annually, with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, using the updated online reporting tool, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development,[112] the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto,[113] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 114 of the 2003 report of the Secretary-General,[114] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 123 to 127 of the 2006 report of the Secretary-General,[115] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 71 to 75 of the 2009 report of the Secretary-General,[116] the recommendations contained in paragraphs 69 to 76 of the 2013 report of the Secretary-General[117] and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 81 to 94 of the 2016 report of the Secretary-General;

5. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement through national production and military holdings as part of their background information and to make use of the de facto reporting form, or any other method they deem appropriate, for the respective elements;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review, and to that end:

(*a*) Calls upon Member States to submit their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, including on whether the absence of small arms and light weapons as a main category in the Register has limited its relevance and directly affected decisions on participation, by completing the questionnaire to be dispatched by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

(*b*) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2019, within existing resources, with the broadest possible participation, in line with the recommendation contained in paragraph 93 of the 2016 report of the Secretary-General, and on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation and relevance of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, relevant deliberations within the United Nations, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to taking a decision at its seventy-fourth session;

(*c*) Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist Member States to build capacity to submit meaningful reports, and encourages States in a position to do so to provide assistance for this purpose upon request, including capacity to report on small arms and light weapons using the seven plus one formula, inter alia, by circulating to Member States the reporting forms, category descriptions and guidance on using the online reporting tool;

(*d*) Further requests the Secretary-General to provide Member States with the opportunity to submit a nil return valid for a maximum of three years, so as to increase the level of reporting to the Register, and to continue to send annual requests to participate in the Register to such Member States, as proposed in the recommendations contained in the consensus report of the 2016 group of governmental experts;

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[112] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

[113] A/55/281.

[114] A/58/274.

[115] A/61/261.

[116] A/64/296.

[117] A/68/140.

(*e*) Requests the Secretary-General to update and reissue the information booklet entitled "Guidelines for Reporting International Transfers: Questions and Answers";

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2013 and 2016 reports on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

8. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

9. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international and regional efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

RESOLUTION 71/45

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[118] by a recorded vote of 141 to 2, with 39 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

Against: Russian Federation, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, China, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kuwait, Latvia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen

71/45. Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/71 of 2 December 2008 on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and 70/54 of 7 December 2015 on the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions at the time of their use, when they fail to function as intended or when they are abandoned,

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Concerned that cluster munition remnants kill or maim civilians, including women and children, obstruct economic and social development, including through the loss of livelihood, impede post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, delay or prevent the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, can have a negative impact on national and international peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance efforts, and have other severe consequences for many years after use,

Deeply concerned about the dangers presented by the large national stockpiles of cluster munitions retained for operational use, and determined to ensure their rapid destruction,

Believing it necessary to contribute effectively in an efficient, coordinated manner to resolving the challenge of removing cluster munition remnants located throughout the world, and to ensure their destruction,

Mindful of the need to coordinate adequately efforts undertaken in various forums, including through the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[119] to address the rights and needs of victims of various types of weapons, and resolved to avoid discrimination among victims of various types of weapons,

Reaffirming that in cases not covered by the Convention on Cluster Munitions[120] or by other international agreements, civilians and combatants remain under the protection and authority of the principles of international law, derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from the dictates of public conscience,

Welcoming the steps taken nationally, regionally and globally in recent years aimed at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions, and welcoming in this regard that, since 2014, all Central American States have joined the Convention, thus fulfilling their aspiration to become the first cluster munitions-free region in the world,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity, as evidenced by the global call for an end to civilian suffering caused by cluster munitions, and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

Noting that a total of 119 States have joined the Convention, 100 as States parties and 19 as signatories,

Taking note of the 2015 Dubrovnik Declaration[121] and the Dubrovnik Action Plan[122] adopted at the First Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 7 to 11 September 2015,

Taking note also of the political declaration establishing 2030 as a target date to implement all individual and collective outstanding obligations under the Convention as adopted by consensus under the presidency of the Netherlands at the Sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Geneva from 5 to 7 September 2016,

1. *Urges* all States outside the Convention on Cluster Munitions[120] to join as soon as possible, whether by ratifying or acceding to it, and all States parties that are in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the implementation of the Dubrovnik Action Plan;[122]

3. *Expresses strong concern* regarding recent allegations, reports or documented evidence of the use of cluster munitions in different parts of the world;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

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[119] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[120] Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

[121] CCM/CONF/2015/7 and Corr.1, annex I.

[122] Ibid., annex III.

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information that could make the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and related activities more effective;

6. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all States parties, interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the future meetings of States parties to the Convention;

7. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues and from recently implemented United Nations financial and accounting practices;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions".

RESOLUTION 71/46

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[123] by a recorded vote of 144 to 16, with 24 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Czechia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan

71/46. Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/47 of 7 December 2015,

Reiterating the deep concern about the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

Stressing that the immense and uncontrollable destructive capability and indiscriminate nature of nuclear weapons cause unacceptable humanitarian consequences, as has been demonstrated through their past use and testing,

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[123] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Recalling that concern about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons has been reflected in numerous United Nations resolutions, including the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly, on 24 January 1946,

Recalling also that at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1978, the Assembly stressed that nuclear weapons posed the greatest danger to mankind and to the survival of civilization,[124]

Welcoming the renewed interest and resolve of the international community, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross and international humanitarian organizations, to address the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons expressed deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,[125]

Noting the resolution of 26 November 2011 of the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement entitled "Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons",

Recalling the joint statements on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered to the General Assembly and during the 2010–2015 cycle of the review of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[126]

Welcoming the facts-based discussions on the effects of a nuclear weapon detonation that were held at the conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, convened by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014,

Cognizant that a key message from experts and international organizations at those conferences was that no State or international body could address the immediate humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation or provide adequate assistance to victims,

Firmly believing that it is in the interest of all States to engage in discussions on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons with the aim of further broadening and deepening the understanding of this matter, and welcoming civil society's ongoing engagement,

Reaffirming the role of civil society, in partnership with Governments, in raising awareness about the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing that the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons affect not only Governments but each and every citizen of our interconnected world and have deep implications for human survival, for the environment, for socioeconomic development, for our economies and for the health of future generations,

1. *Stresses* that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons never be used again, under any circumstances;

2. *Emphasizes* that the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used again is their total elimination;

3. *Stresses* that the catastrophic effects of a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design, cannot be adequately addressed;

4. *Expresses its firm belief* that awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons must underpin all approaches and efforts towards nuclear disarmament;

5. *Calls upon* all States, in their shared responsibility, to prevent the use of nuclear weapons, to prevent their vertical and horizontal proliferation and to achieve nuclear disarmament;

6. *Urges* States to exert all efforts to totally eliminate the threat of these weapons of mass destruction;

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[124] See resolution S-10/2.

[125] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[126] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 71/47

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[127] by a recorded vote of 137 to 34, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Finland, Georgia, India, Japan, Pakistan, Serbia, South Sudan

71/47. Humanitarian pledge for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/48 of 7 December 2015,

Ever mindful of the unacceptable harm that victims of nuclear weapon explosions and nuclear testing have experienced, and recognizing that the rights and needs of victims have not yet been adequately addressed,

Understanding that the immediate, medium-term and long-term consequences of a nuclear weapon explosion would be significantly graver than was understood in the past and would not be constrained by national borders but have regional or even global effects, potentially threatening the survival of humanity,

Recognizing the complexity of and relationship between these consequences for, inter alia, health, the environment, infrastructure, food security, climate, development, social cohesion, displacement and the global economy, which would be systemic and potentially irreversible,

Aware that the risk of a nuclear weapon explosion is significantly greater than previously assumed and is indeed increasing with increased proliferation, the lowering of the technical threshold for nuclear weapon capability, the ongoing modernization of nuclear weapon arsenals in States possessing nuclear weapons and the role that is attributed to nuclear weapons in the nuclear doctrines of such States,

Cognizant that the risk of the use of nuclear weapons, with its unacceptable consequences, can be avoided only when all nuclear weapons have been eliminated,

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Emphasizing that the consequences of a nuclear weapon explosion and the risks associated with nuclear weapons concern the security of all humanity and that all States share the responsibility to prevent any use of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing also that the scope of the consequences of a nuclear weapon explosion and the associated risks raise profound moral and ethical questions that go beyond debates about the legality of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that no national or international capacity exists that would adequately respond to the human suffering and humanitarian harm that would result from a nuclear weapon explosion in a populated area, and that such capacity most likely will never exist,

Affirming that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons are never used again, under any circumstances,

Reiterating the crucial role that international organizations, relevant entities of the United Nations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, elected representatives, academia and civil society play in advancing the shared objective of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Recalling the three international conferences convened, respectively, by Norway in March 2013, Mexico in February 2014 and Austria in December 2014 on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, and the compelling evidence presented at these conferences,

Welcoming the fact that 127 States have drawn inescapable conclusions from the evidence on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons and, consequently, supported or endorsed the Humanitarian Pledge,[128]

1. *Stresses* the importance of having fact-based discussions and presenting findings and compelling evidence on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in all relevant forums and within the United Nations framework, as they should be at the centre of all deliberations and the implementation of obligations and commitments with regard to nuclear disarmament;

2. *Appeals* to all States to follow the imperative of human security for all and to promote the protection of civilians against risks stemming from nuclear weapons;

3. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[129] to renew their commitment to the urgent and full implementation of their existing obligations under article VI, and calls upon all States to identify and pursue effective measures to fill the legal gap for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons and to cooperate with all stakeholders to achieve this goal;

4. *Calls upon* all States to pursue an additional legal instrument or instruments with urgency and to support international efforts to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons;

5. *Recalls* that all such efforts are aimed at contributing to the full implementation of article VI of the Treaty and the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons;

6. *Requests* all States possessing nuclear weapons, pending the total elimination of their nuclear weapon arsenals, to take concrete interim measures to reduce the risk of nuclear weapon detonations, including by reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons and moving nuclear weapons away from deployment and into storage, diminishing the role of nuclear weapons in military doctrines and rapidly reducing all types of nuclear weapons;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant stakeholders, States, international organizations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, parliamentarians and civil society to cooperate in efforts to stigmatize, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons in the light of their unacceptable humanitarian consequences and associated risks;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Humanitarian pledge for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons".

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[128] See CD/2039 and www.hinw14vienna.at.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

RESOLUTION 71/48

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[130]

71/48. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/49 of 7 December 2015, as well as all previous resolutions on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[131] and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

Emphasizing also the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[132]

Recalling the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Underlining the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Mindful of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings on the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the convening of the Second Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, in New York from 1 to 5 June 2015, and the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 6 to 10 June 2016, to consider the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, and the final document adopted therein,[133]

Welcoming also the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[134] including Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting that tools developed by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, and those developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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[130] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[131] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[132] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

[133] A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2.

[134] Resolution 70/1.

Welcoming the coordinated efforts within the United Nations to implement the Programme of Action, including by developing the Programme of Action Implementation Support System, which forms an integrated clearing house for international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building in the area of small arms and light weapons,

Noting that voluntary national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action can serve, inter alia, to provide a baseline for measuring progress in its implementation, build confidence and promote transparency, provide a basis for information exchange and action and serve to identify needs and opportunities for international assistance and cooperation, including the matching of needs with available resources and expertise,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including the tackling of both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Reaffirming that international cooperation and assistance are an essential aspect of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in accordance with the sovereignty of States and their relevant international obligations,

Reiterating that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

Highlighting new challenges and potential opportunities with regard to effective marking, record-keeping and tracing resulting from developments in the manufacturing, technology and design of small arms and light weapons, and bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[135] which includes an overview of the implementation of resolution 70/49,

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[136]

Acknowledging efforts related to the transfer of conventional arms that may also contribute to the prevention and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[131] to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to illicit trade, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences for the affected States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument)[132] by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

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[135] A/71/438.

[136] See resolution 67/234 B.

4. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

5. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[137]

6. *Reaffirms* its endorsement of the report adopted at the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[133] and encourages all States to implement, as appropriate, the measures highlighted in the annex to the report under the sections entitled "Way forward";

7. *Recalls* its decision, in accordance with the decision of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[138] to hold the Third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2018 for a period of two weeks, preceded by a one-week preparatory committee meeting early in 2018;

8. *Emphasizes* that international cooperation and assistance remain essential to the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument;

9. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

10. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

11. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

12. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of these national reports;

13. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and provide assistance to other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

14. *Encourages* States to reinforce, as necessary, cross-border cooperation at the national, subregional and regional levels in addressing the common problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, with full respect for each State's sovereignty over its own borders;

15. *Also encourages* States to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with their mandates and consistent with national priorities;

16. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome documents of the Second United Nations Conference to Review

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[137] See A/62/163 and Corr.1.

[138] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annex I, sect. III, paras. 1 and 2.

Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[139] and in the final document of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action;[133]

17. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

18. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

19. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

20. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTION 71/49

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[140] by a recorded vote of 167 to 4, with 16 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia,

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[139] Ibid., annexes I and II.

[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Zambia.

Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, South Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zimbabwe

71/49. United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to achieving a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons,

Recalling its resolution 70/40 of 7 December 2015,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[141] as the cornerstone of the international nuclear non-proliferation regime and an essential foundation for the pursuit of the three pillars of the Treaty, namely, nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

Reaffirming also its determination to further strengthen the universality of the regime of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and recalling that nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually reinforcing and are essential for strengthening the Treaty regime,

Stressing the importance of the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2020, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty, and of its review cycle towards the 2020 Review Conference,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament are mutually reinforcing,

Expressing concern over the recent developments in regional security situations,

Reaffirming that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, which is, inter alia, essential to international peace and security,

Noting that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Stressing the importance of the decisions and the resolution on the Middle East of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[142] and the Final Documents of the 2000[143] and 2010[144] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and reaffirming its support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and in accordance with the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and for the resumption of dialogue towards this end involving the States concerned,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken towards the development of nuclear disarmament verification capabilities that can contribute to the pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons, including the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification, and stressing in this regard the importance of cooperation between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States,

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[141] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[142] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[143] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[144] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

Stressing the need to continue to explore possibilities for overcoming the ongoing deadlock of two decades in the Conference on Disarmament,

Welcoming the continuing successful implementation of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,

Welcoming also the successful convening of the ministerial meeting on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in Vienna in June 2016, and the eighth ministerial meeting in support of the Treaty, held in New York in September 2016, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Treaty, and commending the accomplishments of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization over the past 20 years, in particular the significant progress made in the establishment of the International Monitoring System and the International Data Centre,

Expressing deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and reaffirming the need for all States to comply at all times with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law, while convinced that every effort should be made to avoid the use of nuclear weapons,

Recognizing that the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons should be fully understood by all, and noting in this regard that efforts should be made to increase such understanding,

Welcoming the recent visits of political leaders to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan, in particular the visit to Hiroshima by the President of the United States of America,

Expressing deep concern regarding the growing dangers posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons and related proliferation networks,

Recalling, in this context, that the international community faces grave challenges to the regime centred on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, such as the repeated nuclear tests and the launches using ballistic missile technology conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, most recently in September 2016, in violation of the relevant Security Council resolutions, and reiterating the resolute opposition of the international community to its possession of nuclear weapons,

Recalling also that nuclear and radiological terrorism remains a pressing and evolving challenge to the international community, and welcoming in this context the success of the Nuclear Security Summit process, including the fourth Nuclear Security Summit, held in Washington, D.C., on 31 March and 1 April 2016, at which the central role of the International Atomic Energy Agency was reaffirmed,

1. *Renews* the determination of all States to take united action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving a safer world for all and a peaceful and secure world free of nuclear weapons;

2. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[141] are committed under article VI thereof;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to comply with their obligations under all the articles of the Treaty and to implement the steps agreed to in the Final Documents of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference[142] and the 2000[143] and 2010[144] Review Conferences;

4. *Encourages* all States to exert their utmost efforts towards the success of the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, bearing in mind that the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference will be held in Vienna in May 2017;

5. *Calls upon* all States not parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to accede as non-nuclear-weapon States to the Treaty promptly and without any conditions to achieve its universality and, pending their accession to the Treaty, to adhere to its terms and to take practical steps in support of the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* all States to take further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all;

7. *Encourages* nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States to further engage in meaningful dialogue that facilitates practical and concrete measures on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

8. *Emphasizes* that deep concerns about the humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons continue to underpin efforts by all States towards a world free of nuclear weapons;

9. *Encourages* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to commence negotiations at an early date to achieve greater reductions in their stockpiles of nuclear weapons, with a view to concluding such negotiations as soon as possible;

10. *Calls upon* all nuclear-weapon States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

11. *Calls upon* all States to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the process of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

12. *Encourages* the nuclear-weapon States to continue to convene regular meetings, with a view to facilitating nuclear disarmament actions, to build upon and expand their efforts to enhance transparency and to increase mutual confidence, including by providing more frequent and further detailed reporting on nuclear weapons and delivery systems dismantled and reduced as part of nuclear disarmament efforts throughout the review process of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons towards the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty;

13. *Calls upon* States concerned to continue to review their military and security concepts, doctrines and policies, with a view to reducing further the role and significance of nuclear weapons therein;

14. *Recognizes* the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding security assurances from nuclear-weapon States which could strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime;

15. *Recalls* Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995, noting the unilateral statements by each of the nuclear-weapon States, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to fully respect their existing commitments with regard to security assurances;

16. *Encourages* the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, where appropriate, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region concerned and in accordance with the 1999 guidelines of the Disarmament Commission,[145] and recognizes that, by signing and ratifying relevant protocols that contain negative security assurances, nuclear-weapon States would undertake individual legally binding commitments with respect to the status of such zones and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against States parties to such treaties;

17. *Urges* all States possessing nuclear weapons to continue to undertake all efforts necessary to comprehensively address the risks of unintended nuclear detonations;

18. *Encourages* further efforts towards the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and in accordance with the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and the resumption of dialogue towards that end involving the States concerned;

19. *Urges* all States, in particular the eight remaining States listed in annex 2 to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[146] to take individual initiatives to sign and ratify that Treaty without further delay and without waiting for any other State to do so, and to maintain all existing moratoriums on nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions and declare their political will to do so pending the entry into force of the Treaty, and also urges all States to redouble their efforts to promote the entry into force of the Treaty through the article XIV process and other mutually reinforcing undertakings;

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[145] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[146] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

20. *Urges* all States concerned to immediately commence negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and its early conclusion on the basis of document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995 and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration the report of the Group of Governmental Experts[147] requested in paragraph 3 of resolution 67/53 of 3 December 2012, and to declare and maintain moratoriums on the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, pending the entry into force of the treaty;

21. *Encourages* all States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[148] in support of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons;

22. *Encourages* every effort to raise awareness of the realities of the use of nuclear weapons, including through, among others, visits by leaders, youth and others to and interactions with communities and people, including atomic bomb survivors, the hibakusha, that pass on their experiences to the future generations;

23. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the recent nuclear tests and launches using ballistic missile technology by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which cannot have the status of a nuclear-weapon State in accordance with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, strongly urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to refrain from conducting further nuclear tests and to abandon all ongoing nuclear activities immediately in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, and calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fully comply with all relevant Security Council resolutions and implement the joint statement of the Six-Party Talks of 19 September 2005, and to return at an early date to full compliance with the Treaty, including that of the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

24. *Calls upon* all States to intensify efforts to address the threat posed by the nuclear and missile programmes of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions;

25. *Also calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery and to fully respect and comply with obligations undertaken to forswear nuclear weapons;

26. *Further calls upon* all States to establish and enforce effective domestic controls to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons and encourages cooperation among States and technical assistance to enhance international partnership and capacity-building in non-proliferation efforts;

27. *Stresses* the fundamental role of the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and the importance of the universalization of the comprehensive safeguards agreements, and, while noting that it is the sovereign decision of any State to conclude an additional protocol, strongly encourages all States that have not done so to conclude and bring into force as soon as possible an additional protocol based on the Model Additional Protocol to the Agreement(s) between States and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards, approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

28. *Calls upon* all States to fully implement relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and 1977 (2011) of 20 April 2011, based on the outcome of the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

29. *Encourages* all States to attach more importance to and enhance the security of nuclear and other radiological materials, to further strengthen the global nuclear security architecture and to work together for the success of the International Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on Nuclear Security, to be held in Vienna in December 2016;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons".

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[147] A/70/81.

[148] A/57/124.

RESOLUTION 71/50

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[149] by a recorded vote of 157 to none, with 28 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

71/50. The Arms Trade Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/89 of 6 December 2006, 63/240 of 24 December 2008, 64/48 of 2 December 2009, 67/234 A of 24 December 2012, 67/234 B of 2 April 2013, 68/31 of 5 December 2013, 69/49 of 2 December 2014 and 70/58 of 7 December 2015 and its decision 66/518 of 2 December 2011,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing also the security, social, economic and humanitarian consequences of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms,

Recognizing further the legitimate political, security, economic and commercial interests of States in the international trade in conventional arms,

Underlining the need to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms and to prevent their diversion to the illicit market, or for unauthorized end use and end users, including the commission of terrorist acts,

Noting the contribution made by the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[150] as well as the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations

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[149] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

[150] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[151] and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[152]

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[153] including Sustainable Development Goal 16, which, inter alia, aims at significantly reducing illicit arms flows by 2030,

Recognizing the important role that civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, and industry play, by raising awareness, in efforts to prevent and eradicate the unregulated and illicit trade in conventional arms and prevent their diversion and in supporting the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty,[154]

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly and the entry into force of the Treaty on 2 April 2013 and 24 December 2014, respectively, and noting that the Treaty remains open for accession by any State that has not signed it,

Noting the efforts by the States parties to the Treaty to continue exploring ways and means to enhance national implementation of the Treaty through the ad hoc working group on implementation,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions taken at the Second Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 22 to 26 August 2016, and notes that the Third Conference of States Parties will be held in Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2017;

2. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the ad hoc working group on implementation, the working group on transparency and reporting and the working group on universalization by the Second Conference of States Parties as important steps in advancing the object and purpose of the Arms Trade Treaty;[154]

3. *Recognizes* that the consolidation of the institutional structure of the Treaty provides a framework for supporting further work under the Treaty, in particular on its effective implementation;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty, according to their respective constitutional processes;

5. *Calls upon* those States parties in a position to do so to provide assistance, including legal or legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building and technical, material or financial assistance, to requesting States in order to promote the universalization of the Treaty;

6. *Stresses* the vital importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Treaty by States parties, and urges them to meet their obligations under the Treaty;

7. *Recognizes* the complementarity among all relevant international instruments on conventional arms and the Treaty, and to this end urges all States to implement effective national measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms in fulfilment of their respective international obligations and commitments;

8. *Encourages* all States parties to make available their initial report, as well as their first annual report for the preceding calendar year, as required under article 13 of the Treaty, thereby enhancing confidence, transparency, trust and accountability, and notes the endorsement by the Second Conference of States Parties of templates that may facilitate the reporting task;

9. *Welcomes* the establishment of a voluntary trust fund for the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty by the Second Conference of States Parties, and encourages all States parties in a position to do so to contribute to the trust fund;

10. *Encourages* States parties and signatory States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could contribute to meeting the costs of participation in meetings under the Treaty for those States that would otherwise be unable to attend;

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[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[152] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

[153] Resolution 70/1.

[154] See resolution 67/234 B.

11. *Encourages* States parties to strengthen their cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, industry and relevant international organizations and to work with other States parties at the national and regional levels, with the aim of ensuring the effective implementation of the Treaty;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The Arms Trade Treaty", and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 71/51

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[155] by a recorded vote of 179 to 4, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Israel

71/51. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000, 56/24 G of 29 November 2001, 57/73 of 22 November 2002, 58/49 of 8 December 2003, 59/85 of 3 December 2004, 60/58 of 8 December 2005, 61/69 of 6 December 2006, 62/35 of 5 December 2007, 63/65 of 2 December 2008, 64/44 of 2 December 2009, 65/58 of 8 December 2010, 67/55 of 3 December 2012, 69/35 of 2 December 2014 and 70/45 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling also the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[156]

Recalling further the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[157]

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[155] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[156] Resolution S-10/2.

[157] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Determined also to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[158] which reaffirmed the conviction that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[159] Rarotonga,[160] Bangkok[161] and Pelindaba[162] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[163] inter alia, for achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the convening by Indonesia of the Third Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, on 24 April 2015,

Noting that 115 States are currently parties and signatories to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties,

Underlining the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

Reaffirming the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[164]

1. *Reaffirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and calls for greater progress towards the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

2. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[163] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[159] Rarotonga,[160] Bangkok[161] and Pelindaba[162] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that all nuclear-weapon-free zones in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas are now in force;

4. *Calls upon* all States concerned to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so, in this regard welcomes the ratification by China, France, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia and the steps taken by the United States of America towards the ratification of the protocols to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, to the Treaty of Pelindaba and to the Treaty of Rarotonga, and encourages progress with a view to concluding consultations between the nuclear-weapon States and the parties to the Bangkok Treaty on the Protocol to that Treaty;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to withdraw any reservations or interpretive declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones;

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[158] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[159] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[160] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[162] A/50/426, annex.

[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[164] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

6. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

7. *Congratulates* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, as well as of Central Asia and Mongolia, for their efforts to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, and calls upon them to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

8. *Encourages* efforts to reinforce coordination among nuclear-weapon-free zones;

9. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of the goals of the treaties;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

RESOLUTION 71/52

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[165]

71/52. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/29 of 7 December 2015 on assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,

Deeply concerned by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

Concerned by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted in Bamako on 1 December 2000,[166]

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",[167] in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling also the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,[168]

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[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[166] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[167] A/59/2005.

[168] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

Recalling further the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[169]

Recalling the adoption, on 14 June 2006 in Abuja at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Recalling also the entry into force of the Convention on 29 September 2009,

Recalling further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish the Small Arms Unit, responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community's Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, and assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,[170]

Recalling, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

Recalling the reports of the United Nations Conferences to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 June to 7 July 2006 and from 27 August to 7 September 2012,[171]

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[172] as well as the inclusion of international assistance in its provisions,

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and in that regard invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[173]

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[169] Resolution 60/1, para. 94.

[170] A/71/151.

[171] A/CONF.192/2006/RC/9 and A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4.

[172] See resolution 67/234 B.

[173] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

6. *Encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in support of programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them".

RESOLUTION 71/53

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[174] by a recorded vote of 175 to 4, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Israel, Lithuania, Republic of Korea, South Sudan

71/53. Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/36 of 5 December 2007, 63/41 of 2 December 2008, 65/71 of 8 December 2010, 67/46 of 3 December 2012 and 69/42 of 2 December 2014,

Recalling also that the maintenance of nuclear weapons on high alert was a feature of cold war nuclear postures, and welcoming the increased confidence and transparency since the cessation of the cold war,

Concerned that, notwithstanding the end of the cold war, several thousand nuclear weapons remain on high alert, ready to be launched within minutes,

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[174] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Chile, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Sweden, Switzerland and Thailand.

Noting the continuing engagement in multilateral disarmament forums in support of further reductions to the operational status of nuclear weapons systems,

Recognizing that the maintenance of nuclear weapons systems at a high level of readiness increases the risk of the unintentional or accidental use of such weapons, which would have catastrophic humanitarian consequences,

Recognizing also that reductions in deployments and the lowering of operational status contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as to the process of nuclear disarmament, through the enhancement of confidence-building and transparency measures and a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies,

Welcoming the steps taken by some States in support of nuclear disarmament, including de-targeting initiatives, increasing the amount of preparation time required for deployment and other measures to diminish further the possibility of nuclear launches resulting from accidents, unauthorized actions or misperceptions,

Recalling the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[175] including the commitments of the nuclear-weapon States to promptly engage with a view to, inter alia, considering the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in further reducing the operational status of nuclear weapons systems in ways that promote international stability and security,

Acknowledging, in this regard, the continued dialogue among the nuclear-weapon States to advance their nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament commitments under the action plan of the 2010 Review Conference[175] and the potential of this process for leading to deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament and greater mutual confidence,

Taking note of the references to operational readiness in reports of the nuclear-weapon States during the last review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Welcoming all opportunities to address the further reduction of the operational status of nuclear weapons systems as a step leading to nuclear disarmament,

1. *Calls for* further practical steps to be taken to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems, with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

2. *Looks forward* to the issue of the lowering of the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems being addressed further at the next review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

3. *Urges* States to update the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 71/54

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[176] by a recorded vote of 137 to 25, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati,

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[175] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)), vol. I, part I.

[176] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Austria, Brazil, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ireland, Liberia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, South Africa, Swaziland and Thailand.

Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Australia, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, China, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Serbia, Ukraine

71/54. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (I) of 24 January 1946, 67/34 of 3 December 2012, 68/39 of 5 December 2013, 69/37 of 2 December 2014 and 70/51 of 7 December 2015,

Reiterating its grave concern at the danger to humanity posed by nuclear weapons, which should inform all deliberations, decisions and actions relating to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recalling the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and its resolve to seek a safer world for all and to achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons,[177]

Noting with satisfaction the renewed attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons that has been generated by the international community since 2010 and the growing awareness that these concerns should underpin the need for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, and noting with satisfaction also the prominence accorded to the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in multilateral disarmament forums,

Recalling the discussions held at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, hosted by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014, aimed at understanding and developing a greater awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapon detonations which further reinforce the urgency of nuclear disarmament,

Emphasizing the compelling evidence, including that presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, that has detailed the catastrophic consequences that would result from a nuclear weapon detonation, reaching well beyond national borders and also imperilling the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the lack of capacity of States and international organizations to deal with the aftermath and the risk of an occurrence, due to an accident, systems failure or human error,

Noting the research findings presented to the Vienna Conference regarding the strongly disproportionate and gendered impact of exposure to ionizing radiation for women and girls,

Recalling the convening, on 26 September 2013, of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament and its resolution 70/34 of 7 December 2015 on the follow-up to that meeting and the decisions contained therein, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to that resolution,[178]

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[177] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[178] A/71/131.

Welcoming the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons,

Welcoming also the convening of the Open-ended Working Group established pursuant to resolution 70/33 of 7 December 2015 on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, as well as the report on its work submitted pursuant to that resolution,[179]

Underlining the importance of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education,

Reaffirming that transparency, verifiability and irreversibility are cardinal principles applying to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which are mutually reinforcing processes,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[180] the basis upon which the Treaty was indefinitely extended, and the Final Documents of the 2000[181] and the 2010[182] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in particular the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[183]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to applying the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their treaty obligations,

Recognizing the continued vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[184] to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives, and welcoming the recent ratification of the Treaty by Myanmar and Swaziland,

Recalling that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding negative security assurances from nuclear-weapon States pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament, and welcoming the Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia,

Welcoming the ratification by China, France, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, and urging those States to continue to make real progress towards strengthening all existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, inter alia, through the withdrawal or revision of any reservations or interpretative declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing such zones,

Recalling the encouragement expressed at the 2010 Review Conference for the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, reaffirming the expectation that this will be followed by concerted international efforts to create such zones in areas where they do not currently exist, especially in the Middle East, in this context noting with deep disappointment the non-fulfilment of the agreement at the 2010 Review Conference on practical steps to fully implement the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, and disappointed that no agreement could be reached at the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on this issue,

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[179] A/71/371.

[180] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[181] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[182] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

[183] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[184] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

Deeply disappointed at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral nuclear disarmament at the Conference on Disarmament, which has been unable for the past 20 years to agree upon and implement a programme of work, and disappointed that the Disarmament Commission has not produced a substantive outcome since 1999,

Deeply regretting the lack of any substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference,

Disappointed that the 2015 Review Conference missed an opportunity to strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, enhance progress towards its full implementation and universality and monitor the implementation of commitments made and actions agreed upon at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences, and deeply concerned about the impact of this failure on the Treaty and the balance between its three pillars,

Acknowledging the ongoing efforts towards the full implementation of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, while re-emphasizing the encouragement of the 2010 Review Conference to both States to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals,

Underlining the importance of multilateralism in relation to nuclear disarmament, while recognizing the value of unilateral, bilateral and regional initiatives and the importance of compliance with the terms of these initiatives,

1. *Reiterates* that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[183] is binding on the States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that all States parties should be held fully accountable with respect to strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and calls upon all States parties to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

2. *Also reiterates* the deep concern expressed by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law;

3. *Acknowledges* the evidence presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon Member States, in their relevant decisions and actions, to give due prominence to the humanitarian imperatives that underpin nuclear disarmament and to the urgency of achieving this goal;

4. *Recalls* the reaffirmation of the continued validity of the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[185] including the specific reaffirmation of the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, recalls the commitment of the nuclear-weapon States to accelerating concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take all steps necessary to accelerate the fulfilment of their commitments;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to fulfil their commitment to undertaking further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

6. *Urges* all States possessing nuclear weapons to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear-weapon systems in a verifiable and transparent manner with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

7. *Encourages* the nuclear-weapon States to make concrete reductions in the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies, pending their total elimination;

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[185] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

8. *Encourages* all States that are part of regional alliances that include nuclear-weapon States to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their collective security doctrines, pending their total elimination;

9. *Underlines* the recognition by States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in the constraining by the nuclear-weapon States of the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and their ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take steps in this regard;

10. *Encourages* further steps by all nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with the previous obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament, to ensure the irreversible removal of all fissile material designated by each nuclear-weapon State as no longer required for military purposes, and calls upon all States to support, within the context of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the development of appropriate nuclear disarmament verification capabilities and legally binding verification arrangements, thereby ensuring that such material remains permanently outside military programmes in a verifiable manner;

11. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is inextricably linked to the indefinite extension of the Treaty, and expresses disappointment and deep concern at the lack of a substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including on the process to establish a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as contained in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, which remains valid until fully implemented;

12. *Expresses its profound disappointment* at the failure to convene a conference in 2012 on the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as mandated at the 2010 Review Conference;

13. *Stresses* the fundamental role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and looks forward to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in Vienna from 2 to 12 May 2017;

14. *Calls upon* all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions, and to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

15. *Urges* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fulfil its commitments under the Six-Party Talks, including those in the September 2005 joint statement, to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes, to return, at an early date, to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to adhere to its International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreement,[186] with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

16. *Urges* all States to work together to overcome obstacles within the international disarmament machinery that are inhibiting efforts to advance the cause of nuclear disarmament in a multilateral context, and urges the Conference on Disarmament once again to commence, without delay, substantive work that advances the agenda of nuclear disarmament, particularly through multilateral negotiations;

17. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fully implement without delay their obligations and commitments under the Treaty and as agreed to at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

18. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to implement their nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments, both qualitative and quantitative, in a manner that enables the States parties to regularly monitor progress, including through a standard detailed reporting format, thereby enhancing confidence and trust not only among the nuclear-weapon States but also between the nuclear-weapon States and the non-nuclear-weapon States and contributing to nuclear disarmament;

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[186] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1677, No. 28986.

19. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States to include in their reports to be submitted throughout the 2020 review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons concrete and detailed information concerning the implementation of their obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament;

20. *Urges* Member States to pursue multilateral negotiations without delay in good faith on effective measures for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world, in keeping with the spirit and purpose of General Assembly resolution 1 (I) and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

21. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support efforts to identify, elaborate and negotiate effective legally binding measures for nuclear disarmament, and welcomes in this regard the recent endeavours towards the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 71/55

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[187] by a recorded vote of 130 to 37, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, India, Japan, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

71/55. Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/50 of 7 December 2015, adopted on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, which was established to save succeeding generations from the untold suffering of the scourge of war,

Recalling also that the United Nations emerged at the time of the immense trail of death and destruction resulting from the Second World War, 71 years ago,

Recalling further the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which enjoin the international community, individually and collectively, to spare no effort in promoting the ethical imperative of "in larger freedom", so that all peoples may enjoy freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom to live in dignity,

Convinced that, given the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with a nuclear weapon detonation, Member States have long envisaged nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation as urgent and interlinked ethical imperatives in achieving the objectives of the Charter, which is reflected in the first resolution, resolution 1 (I), adopted by the General Assembly on 24 January 1946, aimed at the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction,

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[187] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Thailand, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Acknowledging, in this connection, the ethical imperatives outlined in the provisions of its resolutions and reports and those of other related international initiatives on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, including the declaration that the use of nuclear weapons would cause indiscriminate suffering and as such is a violation of the Charter and the laws of humanity and international law,[188] the condemnation of nuclear war as contrary to human conscience and a violation of the fundamental right to life,[189] the threat to the very survival of humankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,[190] the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,[191] and the disquiet that was expressed at the continued spending on the development and maintenance of nuclear arsenals,[192]

Acknowledging also the preamble to and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[193] and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[194] in which the Court unanimously concluded that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Acknowledging further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[195] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Concerned that, despite the long-standing recognition it has accorded to these ethical imperatives and while much effort has been directed to addressing nuclear non-proliferation, limited progress has been made in meeting the nuclear disarmament obligations required to achieve and maintain the nuclear-weapon-free world that the international community demands,

Disappointed at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament, despite unrelenting efforts of Member States towards this end, and the lack of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing awareness, renewed attention and growing momentum that has been generated by Member States and the international community since 2010 regarding the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons, which underpin the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, together with all related international initiatives,

Conscious of the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in relation to nuclear disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as essential to nuclear disarmament negotiations,

1. *Calls upon* all States to acknowledge the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design;

2. *Acknowledges* the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, which is a "global public good of the highest order", serving both national and collective security interests;

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[188] See resolution 1653 (XVI).

[189] See resolution 38/75.

[190] See resolution S-10/2.

[191] See resolution 50/70 M.

[192] See A/59/119.

[193] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[194] A/51/218, annex.

[195] Resolution 55/2.

3. *Declares*:

(*a*) The global threat posed by nuclear weapons must urgently be eliminated;

(*b*) Discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons must focus on the effects of these weapons on human beings and the environment and must be guided by the unspeakable suffering and unacceptable harm that they cause;

(*c*) Greater attention must be given to the impact of a nuclear weapon detonation on women and the importance of their participation in discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons;

(*d*) Nuclear weapons serve to undermine collective security, heighten the risk of nuclear catastrophe, aggravate international tension and make conflict more dangerous;

(*e*) Arguments in favour of the retention of nuclear weapons have a negative impact on the credibility of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime;

(*f*) The long-term plans for the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals run contrary to commitments and obligations to nuclear disarmament and engender perceptions of the indefinite possession of these weapons;

(*g*) In a world where basic human needs have not yet been met, the vast resources allocated to the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals could instead be redirected to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals;

(*h*) Given the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, it is inconceivable that any use of nuclear weapons, irrespective of the cause, would be compatible with the requirements of international humanitarian law or international law, or the laws of morality, or the dictates of public conscience;

(*i*) Given their indiscriminate nature and potential to annihilate humanity, nuclear weapons are inherently immoral;

4. *Notes* that all responsible States have a solemn duty to take decisions that serve to protect their people and each other from the ravages of a nuclear weapon detonation, and that the only way for States to do so is through the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Stresses* that all States share an ethical responsibility to act with urgency and determination, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, to take the effective measures, including legally binding measures, necessary to eliminate and prohibit all nuclear weapons, given their catastrophic humanitarian consequences and associated risks;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world".

RESOLUTION 71/56

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[196]

71/56. Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms the equal rights of women and men,

Recalling also its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010, 67/48 of 3 December 2012, 68/33 of 5 December 2013 and 69/61 of 2 December 2014,

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[196] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia.

Recalling further General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the issue of women and peace and security,

Noting the 2015 review of the women and peace and security agenda,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[197] including Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the promotion of women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Welcoming also the call for the full and meaningful participation of women in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit transfer of small arms, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2117 (2013) of 26 September 2013, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2220 (2015) of 22 May 2015,

Reaffirming that the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is one of the essential factors for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of women to practical disarmament measures carried out at the local, national, subregional and regional levels in the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict, and in promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Recognizing also that the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control should be further developed and in particular the need to facilitate the participation and representation of women in policymaking, planning and implementation processes related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Recalling the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty,[198] and therefore encouraging States parties to fully implement all the provisions of the Treaty, including the provisions on serious acts of gender-based violence and on violence against children,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Member States to increase the participation of women in their national and regional coordination mechanisms on disarmament-related matters, including in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

1. *Urges* Member States, relevant subregional and regional organizations, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in particular as it relates to the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken by Member States to implement General Assembly resolution 69/61;[199]

3. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to accord high priority to the issue of women and peace and security, and in this regard notes the role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in promoting the implementation of all resolutions related to women in the context of peace and security;

4. *Encourages* Member States to better understand the impact of armed violence, in particular the impact of the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons on women and girls, through, inter alia, the development of national action plans on women and peace and security and strengthening the collection of data disaggregated by sex and age;

5. *Urges* Member States to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in organizations in the field of disarmament at the local, national, subregional and regional levels;

6. *Calls upon* all States to empower women, including through capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control efforts;

7. *Encourages* States to seriously consider increasing funding for policies and programmes that take account of the differing impacts of illicit small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys;

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[197] Resolution 70/1.

[198] See resolution 67/234 B.

[199] A/71/137.

8. *Calls upon* all States to develop appropriate and effective national risk assessment criteria to facilitate the prevention of the use of arms to commit violence against women and children;

9. *Requests* the relevant United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to assist States, upon request, in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, including in preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on ways and means of promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control".

RESOLUTION 71/57

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[200]

71/57. United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/33 E of 20 November 2000, 57/60 of 22 November 2002, 59/93 of 3 December 2004, 61/73 of 6 December 2006, 63/70 of 2 December 2008, 65/77 of 8 December 2010, 67/47 of 3 December 2012 and 69/65 of 2 December 2014,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[201] in which the Secretary-General reported on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[202] and recalling that 2016 marks the fourteenth anniversary of that report,

Recognizing the usefulness of the disarmament and non-proliferation education website "Disarmament education: resources for learning", which is updated on a regular basis by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including to provide information in all its sections, such as presentations, interviews in the "Disarmament today" series of podcasts, which include the experiences of the hibakusha, the atomic bomb survivors, films and publications on disarmament issues, and encouraging the use of new communications technologies and social media for the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

Emphasizing that the Secretary-General concludes in his report that efforts need to be continued to implement the recommendations of the study and follow the good examples of how they are being implemented to stimulate even further long-term results,

Desirous of stressing the urgency of promoting concerted international efforts at disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with a view to strengthening international security and enhancing sustainable economic and social development,

Conscious of the need to combat the negative effects of cultures of violence and complacency in the face of current dangers in this field through long-term programmes of education and training,

Remaining convinced that the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education, particularly among youth, has never been greater, not only on the subject of weapons of mass destruction but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament, as well as on the relevance of implementing the recommendations contained in the United Nations study,

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[200] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[201] A/71/124 and Add.1.

[202] A/57/124.

Recognizing the importance of the participation of civil society, including academic and non-governmental organizations, which plays an active role in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, civil society and academic and non-governmental organizations, which, within their purview, implemented the recommendations made in the United Nations study,[202] as discussed in the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the implementation of the recommendations,[201] and encourages them once again to continue to apply those recommendations and report to the Secretary-General on steps taken to implement them;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and possible new opportunities for promoting disarmament and non-proliferation education, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

3. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General to utilize electronic means to the fullest extent possible in the dissemination, in as many official languages as feasible, of information related to that report and any other information that the Office for Disarmament Affairs gathers on an ongoing basis with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to maintain updated the website "Disarmament education: resources for learning", including the "Disarmament today" series of podcasts, as an efficient and effective tool to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Disarmament and non-proliferation education".

RESOLUTION 71/58

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[203] by a recorded vote of 136 to 25, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Norway, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, South Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

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[203] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

71/58. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007, 63/49 of 2 December 2008, 64/55 of 2 December 2009, 65/76 of 8 December 2010, 66/46 of 2 December 2011, 67/33 of 3 December 2012, 68/42 of 5 December 2013, 69/43 of 2 December 2014 and 70/56 of 7 December 2015,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to humanity and all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the realization of the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[204] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[205] the unequivocal commitment of nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[206] and the action points agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as part of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions on nuclear disarmament,[207]

Sharing the deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Calling upon all nuclear-weapon States to undertake concrete disarmament efforts, and stressing that all States need to make special efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

Noting the five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament of the Secretary-General, in which he proposes, inter alia, the consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification,

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty,[208] the treaties of Tlatelolco,[209] Rarotonga,[210] Bangkok[211] and Pelindaba[212] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as

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[204] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[205] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[206] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[207] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)), vol. I, part I.

[208] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[209] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[210] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[211] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[212] A/50/426, annex.

Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Stressing the urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the 13 practical steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons leading to nuclear disarmament, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,[206]

Taking note of the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention that was submitted to the Secretary-General by Costa Rica and Malaysia in 2007 and circulated by the Secretary-General,[213]

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[214]

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken with respect to the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its seventy-second session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 71/59

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[215] by a recorded vote of 181 to none, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya,

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[213] A/62/650, annex.

[214] A/51/218, annex.

[215] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, United States of America

71/59. Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 69/53 of 2 December 2014,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons, as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[216] as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

Emphasizing the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[217]

2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare,[216] and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/60

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[218]

71/60. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December

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[216] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138.

[217] A/71/84.

[218] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005, 61/63 of 6 December 2006, 62/28 of 5 December 2007, 63/51 of 2 December 2008, 64/33 of 2 December 2009, 65/53 of 8 December 2010, 66/31 of 2 December 2011, 67/37 of 3 December 2012, 68/36 of 5 December 2013, 69/55 of 2 December 2014 and 70/30 of 7 December 2015,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/30,[219]

Noting that the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly, without a vote, of resolution 70/30 on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[219]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RESOLUTION 71/61

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[220] by a recorded vote of 132 to 4, with 50 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[219] A/71/123 and Add.1.

[220] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine

71/61. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007, 63/50 of 2 December 2008, 64/34 of 2 December 2009, 65/54 of 8 December 2010, 66/32 of 2 December 2011, 67/38 of 3 December 2012, 68/38 of 5 December 2013, 69/54 of 2 December 2014 and 70/31 of 7 December 2015 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[221] in which it is stated, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and therefore should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

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[221] Resolution 55/2.

Stressing that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would make an essential contribution to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Noting that the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, welcomed the adoption of resolution 70/31 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 70/31;[222]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

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[222] A/71/133.

RESOLUTION 71/62

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[223]

71/62. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[224] as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[225]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002, 59/78 of 3 December 2004, 60/61 of 8 December 2005, 61/64 of 6 December 2006, 62/48 of 5 December 2007, 63/52 of 2 December 2008, 64/32 of 2 December 2009, 65/52 of 8 December 2010, 66/30 of 2 December 2011, 67/40 of 3 December 2012, 68/37 of 5 December 2013, 69/56 of 2 December 2014 and 70/32 of 7 December 2015 and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016,

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption in 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the fields of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development[226] and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

Bearing in mind the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[225]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/32,[227]

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the relationship between disarmament and development, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and subagencies;

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[223] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[224] See resolution S-10/2.

[225] See *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, New York, 24 August–11 September 1987* (A/CONF.130/39).

[226] See A/59/119.

[227] A/71/152 and Add.1.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted on 11 September 1987 at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[225]

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development into their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;[226]

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RESOLUTION 71/63

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[228] by a recorded vote of 122 to 44, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Cyprus, India, Japan, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, New Zealand, Pakistan, San Marino, Serbia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sweden, Uzbekistan

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[228] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

71/63. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005, 61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007, 63/46 of 2 December 2008, 64/53 of 2 December 2009, 65/56 of 8 December 2010, 66/51 of 2 December 2011, 67/60 of 3 December 2012, 68/47 of 5 December 2013, 69/48 of 2 December 2014 and 70/52 of 7 December 2015 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[229] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[230] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing the urgent need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[231] calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[232] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[233]

Stressing the importance of the 13 steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[234]

Recognizing the important work done at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[235] and affirming its 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament as an impetus to intensify work aimed at beginning negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention,

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[229] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[230] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[231] Resolution S-10/2.

[232] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[233] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[234] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[235] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

Expressing deep concern that the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 27 April to 22 May 2015, did not reach agreement on a substantive final document,

Reaffirming the continued validity of agreements reached at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences until all their objectives are achieved, and calling for their full and immediate fulfilment, including the action plan on nuclear disarmament adopted at the 2010 Review Conference,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[236]

Noting the new strategic arms reduction treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, in order to achieve further cuts in their deployed and non-deployed strategic nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

Noting also the statements by nuclear-weapon States of their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, as well as the steps taken to reduce the role and number of nuclear weapons, and urging nuclear-weapon States to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament within a specified framework of time,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States, without exception or discrimination, against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[237] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also paragraph 176 of the final document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, in which the Conference on Disarmament was called upon to agree on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work by, inter alia, establishing an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament as soon as possible and as the highest priority, while the necessity was emphasized of starting negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, without further delay, on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention that sets, inter alia, a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time,

Noting the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,[238] after years of stalemate, while regretting that the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work for the 2016 session,

Welcoming the proposals submitted by the States members of the Conference on Disarmament that are members of the Group of 21 on the follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013, as contained in documents of the Conference,[239]

Reaffirming the importance and validity of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and expressing the need to adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, four core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedure,[240] and by taking into consideration the security concerns of all States,

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[236] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[237] A/51/218, annex.

[238] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

[239] See CD/1999 and CD/2067.

Reaffirming also the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[241] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Underlining the importance of implementing its decision in resolution 68/32 to convene, no later than 2018, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard,

Recalling the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament held on 26 September 2013, and the strong support for nuclear disarmament expressed therein,

Welcoming the commemoration of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, as declared by the General Assembly in its resolutions 68/32 of 5 December 2013, 69/58 of 2 December 2014 and 70/34 of 7 December 2015, devoted to furthering this objective,

Taking note of the declaration of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, in Mexico City on 26 September 2014,[242]

Noting the successful convening of the first, second and third Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, in Oslo on 4 and 5 March 2013, in Nayarit, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and in Vienna on 8 and 9 December 2014, respectively, and also noting that 127 nations have formally endorsed the Humanitarian Pledge issued following the Third Conference,[243]

Welcoming the signing by the nuclear-weapon States, namely, China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, in New York on 6 May 2014,

Welcoming also the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a *Zone of Peace* on 29 January 2014 during the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations,[244] established by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/33, in which the Working Group recommended that the General Assembly convene a conference in 2017, to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Urges* all nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of all nuclear weapons at the earliest possible time;

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[240] CD/8/Rev.9.

[241] Resolution 55/2.

[242] A/C.1/69/2, annex.

[243] See CD/2039.

[244] A/71/371.

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons, on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone[245] and the nuclear-weapon States to intensify ongoing efforts to resolve all outstanding issues, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty, pertaining to the signing and ratifying of the Protocol to the Treaty;

5. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

6. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

7. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in and the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

8. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

9. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons;

10. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of their nuclear weapons, in an irreversible, verifiable and transparent manner, as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

11. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament;

12. *Also underlines* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[234] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[246]

13. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the 13 practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;[234]

14. *Also calls for* the full implementation of the action plan as set out in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly the 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament;[235]

15. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, including on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

16. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, in the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and

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[245] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[246] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[247] and the mandate contained therein;

17. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2017 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention;

18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument on unconditional security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

19. *Also calls for* the early entry into force, universalization and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[236] as a contribution to nuclear disarmament, while welcoming the latest ratifications of the Treaty, by Myanmar and Swaziland, on 21 September 2016;

20. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament in 2017 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

21. *Calls for* the convening, no later than 2018, of a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/64

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[248]

71/64. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998, 54/54 H of 1 December 1999, 55/33 G of 20 November 2000, 56/24 P of 29 November 2001 and 57/81 of 22 November 2002, its decision 58/519 of 8 December 2003, as well as its resolutions 59/82 of 3 December 2004, 61/76 of 6 December 2006, 63/62 of 2 December 2008, 65/67 of 8 December 2010, 67/50 of 3 December 2012 and 69/60 of 2 December 2014, entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures",

Convinced that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peacebuilding; such measures include collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of stockpiled weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

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[247] CD/1299.

[248] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Noting with satisfaction that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, including their ammunition, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic and social development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

Stressing that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas as part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures so as to complement, on a case-by-case basis, peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 2171 (2014) of 21 August 2014, in which the Council affirmed that a comprehensive conflict prevention strategy should include practical disarmament and other measures to contribute to combating the proliferation and illicit trade of arms,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms mechanism, which was established by the Secretary-General to bring about a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to the complex and multifaceted global problems related to small arms,

Welcoming also the report of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[249] which, inter alia, underlined the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action[250] and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument)[251] for attaining Goal 16 and target 16.4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[252] and which noted the importance of arrangements that assist in matching needs and resources for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Welcoming further the sustainable operation of the flexible, voluntary United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation, pursuant to the Programme of Action and the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action,[253]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/60;[254]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,[255] which highlighted recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design and implications for the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument);[251]

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of including in United Nations-mandated peacekeeping missions, as appropriate and with the consent of the host State, practical disarmament measures aimed at addressing the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons, including through weapons collection, disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration programmes and enhancing physical security and stockpile management practices, as well as relevant training programmes, with a view to promoting and implementing an integrated comprehensive and effective weapons management strategy that would contribute to a sustainable peacebuilding process;

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[249] A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2.

[250] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[251] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and Corr.2, annex.

[252] Resolution 70/1.

[253] A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4, annexes I and II.

[254] A/71/151.

[255] A/71/438-A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/1.

4. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the Group of Interested States for Practical Disarmament Measures, and invites the Group to continue to promote, on the basis of lessons learned from previous disarmament and peacebuilding projects, new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves and regional and subregional organizations, as well as United Nations agencies;

5. *Encourages* the Group of Interested States to continue to function as an informal, open and transparent forum supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[250] in particular to facilitate the exchange of views on issues related to the United Nations small arms and light weapons process, as well as to continue efforts to facilitate the effective matching of assistance needs with available resources, in line with requests from affected States as indicated in their national reports, pursuant to the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action[253] and the outcome of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action,[256] thus effectively facilitating the provision of international assistance in the implementation of the Programme of Action;

6. *Also encourages* the Group of Interested States to contribute to the development of voluntary indicators at the national level, based on the work of the Statistical Commission, the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, which could be used to measure progress made in the implementation of target 16.4,[257] and to support efforts towards the implementation of the target, including data collection for relevant indicators;[258]

7. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to financially contribute to the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation;

8. *Encourages* States parties to the Arms Trade Treaty in a position to do so to financially contribute to the Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund;

9. *Welcomes* the synergies within the multi-stakeholder process, including Governments, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and institutions as well as non-governmental organizations in support of practical disarmament measures and the Programme of Action;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of practical disarmament measures, taking into consideration the activities of the Group of Interested States;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

RESOLUTION 71/65

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[259]

71/65. Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/49 of 8 December 2010, 67/31 of 3 December 2012 and 69/36 of 2 December 2014,

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[256] A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2, annex.

[257] Ibid., sect. I, para. 27.

[258] Ibid., sect. I, para. 76.

[259] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uzbekistan.

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament, and emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of such zones in different regions of the world in the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Considering that the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region,[260] constitutes an important step towards strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ensuring regional and international peace and security,

Considering also that the Treaty is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Emphasizing the role of the Treaty in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and the importance of stepping up efforts to ensure the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in the Central Asian States,

Recognizing the importance of the Treaty, and emphasizing its significance in the attainment of peace and security,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

2. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia on 6 May 2014 by nuclear-weapon States and the ratification of this instrument by four of them, and calls for early completion of the ratification process;

3. *Further welcomes* the submission at the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of two working papers, on the Treaty and on the environmental consequences of uranium mining;

4. *Welcomes* the convening of consultative meetings of States parties to the Treaty, on 15 October 2009 in Ashgabat, 15 March 2011 in Tashkent, 12 June 2012 in Astana, 27 June 2013 in Astana, 25 July 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and 27 February 2015 in Bishkek, which identified joint activities by the Central Asian States to ensure fulfilment of the obligations set out in the Treaty and to develop cooperation on disarmament issues with international bodies, as well as the adoption of an action plan of the States parties to the Treaty to strengthen nuclear security, prevent the proliferation of nuclear materials and counter nuclear terrorism in Central Asia;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia".

RESOLUTION 71/66

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[261]

71/66. Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/46 of 5 December 2007, 65/74 of 8 December 2010, 67/51 of 3 December 2012 and 69/50 of 2 December 2014,

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[260] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[261] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Recognizing the essential contribution of radioactive materials and sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

Recognizing also the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Noting with satisfaction the continued international efforts to strengthen further the security of radioactive materials and sources worldwide,

Deeply concerned by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive materials or sources in radiological dispersion or emitting devices,

Deeply concerned also by the potential threat to human health and the environment that would result from the use of such devices by terrorists,

Noting with concern the ongoing occurrence of nuclear and radioactive materials that are outside of regulatory control or being trafficked,

Recalling the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,[262] and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted on 26 October 1979,[263] as well as its Amendment, adopted on 8 July 2005,[264] which entered into force on 8 May 2016,

Noting that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and 1977 (2011) of 20 April 2011, constitute contributions to the protection against terrorism using such materials,

Stressing the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive materials and sources, in particular by establishing technical guidance and supporting States in the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure, and in strengthening coordination and complementarities among various nuclear or radiological security activities,

Noting the organization by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, held in Vienna from 1 to 5 July 2013, and the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Maintaining the Continuous Global Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle, held in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 31 October 2013, as well as the upcoming International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, to be held in Vienna from 5 to 9 December 2016,

Stressing the contribution of the International Atomic Energy Agency to preventing illicit trafficking in radioactive materials and facilitating information-sharing on materials out of regulatory control through, inter alia, the Incident and Trafficking Database and its work in the field of nuclear forensics,

Noting the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[265] with respect to its provisions on the safety of disused sealed sources,

Highlighting the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and of its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources as valuable instruments for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, noting that 133 States members of the International Atomic Energy Agency have made a political commitment to implement the provisions of the Code and 106 States have made a similar commitment to the supplementary Guidance, while recognizing that they are not legally binding, and highlighting the importance of the International Atomic Energy Agency Action Plan for the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and its Nuclear Security Plan for 2014–2017, and of the voluntary contributions of Member States to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

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[262] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[263] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[264] See International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment.

[265] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

Noting that a number of States have not yet become parties to the pertinent international instruments,

Encouraging Member States to make voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

Taking note of resolutions GC(60)/RES/9 and GC(60)/RES/10, adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixtieth regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety and measures to protect against nuclear and radiological terrorism, and of the Nuclear Security Plan for 2014–2017,

Welcoming the fact that Member States have taken multilateral action to address this issue, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 70/10 of 17 November 2015,

Noting the various international efforts and partnerships to enhance nuclear and radiological security, encouraging further efforts to secure radioactive materials, and noting also in this respect recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency with regard to safe and secure management of radioactive sources,

Taking note of the findings of the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources of 2013, which, inter alia, call for further assessment of the merits of developing an international convention on the safety and security of radioactive sources so that Member States can make the best-informed decisions on the matter,

Noting that the Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) works with nations to strengthen capabilities to counter nuclear smuggling and prevent terrorists from acquiring nuclear or radiological materials, and that INTERPOL Operation Fail Safe promotes the sharing of sensitive law-enforcement information on known nuclear smugglers,

Welcoming the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive materials and sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

Mindful of the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with its international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear safety and security, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

Mindful also of the urgent need to address, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Encourages* all Member States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism[262] as soon as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes;

3. *Invites* Member States, in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency, to consider the merits of an evaluation of the existing international framework applicable to radioactive sources and, if necessary, to explore possible options for its potential strengthening;

4. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive materials and sources, as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, to suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, secure and physically protect such facilities, materials and sources in accordance with their international obligations;

5. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their national capacities with appropriate means of detection and related architecture or systems, including through international cooperation and assistance in conformity with international law and regulations, with a view to detecting and preventing illicit trafficking in radioactive materials and sources;

6. *Invites* Member States, in particular those producing and distributing radioactive sources, to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in General Conference resolution GC(60)/RES/9 and to enhance the security of radioactive sources, as described in the Nuclear Security Plan for 2014–2017;

7. *Urges* all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, including, as appropriate, the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, noting that the Guidance is supplementary to the Code, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to General Conference resolution GC(60)/RES/9;

8. *Encourages* Member States to work with the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the non-legally binding international framework for radioactive sources, especially on the safe and secure management of disused radioactive sources, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Agency, in particular with resolutions GC(60)/RES/9 and GC(60)/RES/10;

9. *Recognizes* the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and takes note of the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency of a proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary periodic exchange on information and lessons learned and for the evaluation of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

10. *Notes* the progress made by the States members of the International Atomic Energy Agency in working within the framework of the Code of Conduct to develop supplementary guidance in the management of disused sources, and encourages the submission, upon completion, of the draft to the Board of Governors, with a view to the adoption and implementation of such guidance as soon as possible;

11. *Encourages* Member States to participate, on a voluntary basis, in the International Atomic Energy Agency Incident and Trafficking Database programme;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Member States, including through international cooperation under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to search for, locate, recover and secure lost or orphaned radioactive sources within their State jurisdiction or territory, encourages continued efforts in this way, and also encourages cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations aimed at strengthening national capacities in this regard;

13. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national laws, policies and priorities, to provide support for scientific research to develop technically and economically appropriate technologies with the capability to further improve the security of radioactive materials or sources;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources".

RESOLUTION 71/67

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[266] by a recorded vote of 175 to none, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia,

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[266] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Belarus, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

71/67. Nuclear disarmament verification

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[267] in particular the paragraphs relevant to verification, and the roles and respective mandates of the disarmament machinery bodies established therein,

Recalling also the decisions taken and commitments made by States parties at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference[268] and the 2000[269] and 2010[270] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons related to nuclear disarmament verification,

Reaffirming the shared commitment to further progress in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

Reiterating its deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Recalling the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[271] are committed under article VI thereof,

Recalling also that significant steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament should promote international stability, peace and security, and be based on the principle of increased and undiminished security for all,

Recalling further that all States parties to the Treaty commit to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their treaty obligations,

Convinced that, while verification is not an aim in itself, further development of the multilateral nuclear disarmament verification capabilities will be required to provide assurance of compliance with multilateral nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons,

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[267] Resolution S-10/2.

[268] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[269] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)).

[270] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I.

[271] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Convinced also that, irrespective of different positions on the means to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, identifying and developing practical and effective measures of nuclear disarmament verification and monitoring will foster confidence and facilitate efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

Recalling its resolution 62/21 of 5 December 2007 on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification, in which it took note of the report of the Panel of Government Experts on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification,[272] as well as the reports of the Secretary-General of 1990 and 1995,[273] and recalling also the report of the Disarmament Commission outlining general principles elaborated upon or added to those stated in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[274]

Recalling also that the International Atomic Energy Agency, in carrying out its functions, shall conduct its activities in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations to promote peace and international cooperation, and in conformity with policies of the United Nations furthering the establishment of safeguarded worldwide disarmament and with any international agreements entered into pursuant to such policies,

Mindful of the role of verification in existing bilateral and multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control agreements, and the importance of making use of existing capabilities of relevant international organizations and experiences and lessons learned, as appropriate,

Mindful also that, given the challenges associated with verifying nuclear disarmament, continuous capacity-building and technical development are critical to bridging any shortcomings and establishing effective multilateral nuclear disarmament verification,

Noting initiatives and partnerships among Member States, such as the initiative of Norway and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the International Partnership for Nuclear Disarmament Verification, to enable active collaboration between States, in conformity with their international obligations, in developing practical methods that could contribute to the verification of irreversible dismantlement of nuclear weapons,

Noting also the contribution of representatives of civil society from the non-governmental, academic and research communities,

1. *Calls for* further efforts to reduce and eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, and reaffirms the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals;

2. *Reaffirms* that disarmament and arms limitation agreements should provide for adequate measures of verification satisfactory to all parties concerned in order to create the necessary confidence and ensure that they are being observed by all parties, and notes the development of broader partnerships and cooperative verification arrangements;

3. *Calls upon* all States to work together to identify and develop practical and effective disarmament verification measures facilitating the objective of achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons through, inter alia, advancing, understanding and addressing technical challenges of nuclear disarmament verification and monitoring, including tools, solutions and methods and capacity-building;

4. *Calls for* the development and strengthening of practical and effective nuclear disarmament verification measures, which will build confidence and facilitate the advancement of nuclear disarmament efforts, and affirms in this context the importance of credible verification in providing assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation obligations and commitments;

5. *Encourages* the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission to substantively address nuclear disarmament verification;

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[272] See A/61/1028.

[273] A/45/372 and Corr.1 and A/50/377 and Corr.1.

[274] A/51/182/Rev.1.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the development and strengthening of practical and effective nuclear disarmament verification measures and on the importance of such measures in achieving and maintaining a world without nuclear weapons, and to report back to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to establish a group of governmental experts of up to 25 participants on the basis of equitable geographical distribution to consider the role of verification in advancing nuclear disarmament, taking into account the aforementioned report, which will meet in Geneva in 2018 and 2019 for a total of three sessions of five days each;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", a sub-item entitled "Nuclear disarmament verification".

RESOLUTION 71/68

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[275] by a recorded vote of 180 to none, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic

71/68. National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling that effective national control of the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, including those transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities, is an important tool for achieving those objectives,

Recalling also that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

Considering that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

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[275] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Netherlands.

Convinced that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

Welcoming the electronic database established by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, in which all information exchanged pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 57/66 of 22 November 2002, 58/42 of 8 December 2003, 59/66 of 3 December 2004, 60/69 of 8 December 2005, 62/26 of 5 December 2007, 64/40 of 2 December 2009, 66/41 of 2 December 2011 and 68/44 of 5 December 2013, entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology", can be consulted,

Welcoming also the adoption by the General Assembly and the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty[276] on 2 April 2013 and 24 December 2014, respectively, and noting that the Treaty remains open for accession by any State that has not signed it,

Considering that, as long as not all States that report to the electronic database established by the Office for Disarmament Affairs have become party to the Treaty, the database will retain its added value,

Reaffirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so, without prejudice to the provisions contained in Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent relevant Council resolutions, to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties, such as the Arms Trade Treaty;[276]

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make that information accessible to Member States;

3. *Decides* to remain attentive to the matter.

RESOLUTION 71/69

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[277] by a recorded vote of 160 to 6, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Burundi, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Kenya, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Samoa, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

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[276] See resolution 67/234 B.

[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

71/69. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 70/41 of 7 December 2015,

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Re-emphasizing its unequivocal support for the decision of the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to continue the mission to establish the facts surrounding the allegations of the use of toxic chemicals, reportedly chlorine, for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic, while stressing that the safety and security of mission personnel remains the top priority,

Recalling that, pursuant to Security Council resolution 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations was established to identify to the greatest extent feasible individuals, entities, groups or Governments that were perpetrators, organizers, sponsors or otherwise involved in the use of chemicals as weapons, including chlorine or any other toxic chemical, in the Syrian Arab Republic, where the fact-finding mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons determined that a specific incident in the Syrian Arab Republic involved or likely involved the use of chemicals as weapons,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013 (the Third Review Conference), including its consensus final report, in which the Conference addressed all aspects of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[278] and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

Emphasizing that the Third Review Conference welcomed the fact that the Convention is a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control and noted with satisfaction that the Convention continues to be a remarkable success and an example of effective multilateralism,

Convinced that the Convention, 19 years after its entry into force, has reinforced its role as the international norm against chemical weapons, and that it constitutes a major contribution to:

(*a*) International peace and security,

(*b*) Eliminating chemical weapons and preventing their re-emergence,

(*c*) The ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

(*d*) Excluding completely, for the sake of all mankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons,

(*e*) Promoting international cooperation and exchange in scientific and technical information in the field of chemical activities among States parties for peaceful purposes in order to enhance the economic and technological development of all States parties,

1. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances, emphasizing that any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances is unacceptable and is and would be a violation of international law, and expressing its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable;

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[278] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

2. *Also condemns in the strongest possible terms* the use of chemical weapons as reported in the reports of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations of 24 August 2016[279] and 21 October 2016,[280] which concluded that there was sufficient information to determine that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the attacks which released toxic substances in Talmenes, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 April 2014, in Sarmin, Syrian Arab Republic, on 16 March 2015, and in Qmenas, Syrian Arab Republic, also on 16 March 2015, and that the so-called "Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant" used sulphur mustard in Marea, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 August 2015, and demands that its perpetrators immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons;

3. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[278] is essential to achieving its object and purpose and to enhancing the security of States parties, as well as to international peace and security, underlines the fact that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single State not party to the Convention that could possess or acquire such weapons, and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

4. *Underlines* the fact that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all articles of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and the prohibition of their acquisition and use, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

5. *Notes* the impact of scientific and technological progress on the effective implementation of the Convention and the importance for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its policymaking organs of taking due account of such developments;

6. *Reaffirms* that the obligation of the States parties to complete the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and the destruction or conversion of chemical weapons production facilities in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Annex on Implementation and Verification (Verification Annex) and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is essential for the realization of the object and purpose of the Convention;

7. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

8. *Recalls* that the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention expressed concern regarding the statement made by the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report to the Executive Council of the Organization at its sixty-eighth session, provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision C-16/DEC.11 of 1 December 2011 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixteenth session, that three possessor States parties, namely, Libya, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, had been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles, and also expressed determination that the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons should be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Verification Annex, and with the full application of the relevant decisions that have been taken;

9. *Welcomes* the ongoing implementation of Executive Council decisions EC-M-50/DEC.1 of 23 November 2015, EC-M-51/DEC.1 of 24 February 2016, EC-M-52/DEC.2 of 27 July 2016 and EC-M-53/DEC.1 and EC-M-53-DEC.2 of 26 August 2016 related to the detailed requirements for the destruction of Libya's remaining category 2 chemical weapons and the destruction of these weapons outside the territory of Libya;

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[279] See S/2016/738/Rev.1.

[280] See S/2016/888.

10. *Notes with concern* that, along with the threat of the possible production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by States, the international community also faces the danger of the production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by non-State actors, including terrorists, concerns which have highlighted the necessity of achieving universal adherence to the Convention, as well as the high level of readiness of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and stresses that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

11. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

13. *Underscores* the concern expressed by the Executive Council in its decision EC-81/DEC.4 of 23 March 2016 regarding the report of the Director General (EC-81/HP/DG.1) indicating the gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies that remain with respect to chemical weapons facilities, activities, munitions and chemical materials and concluding that the Technical Secretariat is unable at present to verify fully that the declaration and related submissions of the Syrian Arab Republic are accurate and complete, as required by the Convention and Executive Council decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of 27 September 2013, and also underscores the importance of such full verification;

14. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

15. *Welcomes* progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, and urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes;

16. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, welcomes the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons, supports further efforts by both States parties and the Technical Secretariat to promote a high level of readiness to respond to chemical weapons threats as articulated in article X, and welcomes the effectiveness and efficiency of the increased focus on making full use of regional and subregional capacities and expertise, including taking advantage of established training centres;

17. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

18. *Emphasizes* the importance of the provisions of article XI of the Convention relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

20. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organization,[281] in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 71/70

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[282] by a recorded vote of 151 to 4, with 28 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Sudan, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine

71/70. Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international humanitarian law,

Recalling its resolutions 62/30 of 5 December 2007, 63/54 of 2 December 2008, 65/55 of 8 December 2010, 67/36 of 3 December 2012 and 69/57 of 2 December 2014,

Determined to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

Taking note of the opinions expressed by Member States and relevant international organizations on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, as reflected in the reports submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions 62/30, 63/54, 65/55, 67/36 and 69/57,[283]

Recognizing the importance of implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization to mitigate potential hazards to human beings and the environment from the contamination of territories with depleted uranium residues,

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[281] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2160, No. 1240.

[282] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[283] A/63/170 and Add.1, A/65/129 and Add.1, A/67/177 and Add.1, A/69/151 and A/71/139.

Considering that studies conducted so far by relevant international organizations have not provided a detailed enough account of the magnitude of the potential long-term effects on human beings and the environment of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

Recalling that the United Nations Environment Programme, in its report to the Secretary-General on the subject,[284] affirms that major scientific uncertainties persist regarding the long-term environmental impacts of depleted uranium, particularly with respect to long-term groundwater contamination, and calls for a precautionary approach to the use of depleted uranium,

Convinced that, as humankind becomes more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

Noting that further research should be done to assess the health risks and environmental impact of the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in conflict situations,

Noting also the technical and financial barriers faced by affected States seeking to implement post-conflict remedial measures that meet international standards for radioactive waste management for locations, infrastructure and materiel contaminated by arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

Taking into consideration the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment, and the ongoing concerns of affected States and communities, health experts and civil society about such effects,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States and international organizations that submitted their views to the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 69/57 and previous resolutions on the subject;

2. *Invites* Member States and relevant international organizations, particularly those that have not yet done so, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete, as appropriate, their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, particularly the affected States, as necessary, to facilitate the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to follow closely the development of the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

6. *Invites* Member States that have used armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment and clearance of such areas;

7. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to provide assistance to States affected by the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, in particular in identifying and managing contaminated sites and material;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the subject to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, reflecting the information submitted by Member States and relevant international organizations, including the information submitted pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 above;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium".

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[284] A/65/129/Add.1, sect. III.

RESOLUTION 71/71

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[285] by a recorded vote of 140 to 30, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, South Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

71/71. Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/39 of 3 December 2012, 68/32 of 5 December 2013, 69/58 of 2 December 2014 and 70/34 of 7 December 2015,

Welcoming the convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, on 26 September 2013, and recognizing its contribution to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that effective measures of nuclear disarmament have the highest priority, as affirmed at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons are the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Acknowledging the significant contribution made by a number of countries towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament by the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as by voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapon programmes or withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from their territories, and strongly supporting the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Recalling the resolve of the Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[286] to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

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[285] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[286] Resolution 55/2.

Reaffirming the central role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, and also reaffirming the continued importance and relevance of multilateral disarmament machinery as mandated by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament,

Acknowledging the important role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians and the mass media, in advancing the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Sharing the deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/34,[287] and welcoming the fact that a large number of Member States contributed their views to this report,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[288] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Expressing its deep concern that the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons have not yet commenced,

Determined to work collectively towards the realization of nuclear disarmament,

1. *Underlines* the strong support, expressed at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013, for taking urgent and effective measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls for* urgent compliance with the legal obligations and the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken on nuclear disarmament;

3. *Endorses* the wide support expressed at the high-level meeting for a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;

4. *Calls for* the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the early conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use and to provide for their destruction;

5. *Recalls* its decision to convene, no later than 2018, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;

6. *Stresses* the need to establish a preparatory committee for the United Nations high-level international conference in New York;

7. *Takes note* of the views provided by Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on the elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as reflected in the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 70/34,[287] and requests the Secretary-General to forward this report to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission for their early consideration;

8. *Welcomes* the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons devoted to furthering this objective;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals that developed activities in promotion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to organize, on 26 September every year, a one-day high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

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[287] A/71/131.

[288] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

11. *Decides* that the aforementioned high-level plenary meeting shall be held with the participation of Member and observer States, represented at the highest possible level, as well as with the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake all arrangements necessary to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, including through the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

13. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination in order to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on the elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, and also to transmit the report to the Conference on Disarmament;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/72

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112)[289]

71/72. Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/46 of 7 December 2015,

Expressing grave concern over the devastation caused by the increasing use of improvised explosive devices by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients,[290] which has affected a large number of countries and has resulted in thousands of casualties, both civilian and military,

Expressing concern at the serious harm that such improvised explosive device attacks have caused to United Nations staff and peacekeepers, and to humanitarian workers, by threatening their lives, increasing the cost of their activities, limiting their freedom of movement and affecting their ability to deliver on their mandates,

Expressing concern also about the negative impact of these attacks on socioeconomic development, infrastructure and freedom of movement, and the security and stability of States, and thus underlining the need to address this issue in order to achieve relevant goals and targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[291] in particular target 16.1 on significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere,

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[289] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, India, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Netherlands, Niger, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[290] See resolution 69/51, A/CONF.192/BMS/2014/2 and A/71/187.

[291] Resolution 70/1.

Recognizing that the wide spectrum of materials that can be used for the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, including those sourced from the military and civilian industry, contributes to their diverse nature and their deployment methods, which thus requires an appropriate approach to the formulation of measures to counter them,

Noting that the impact of improvised explosive devices spans a wide array of policy areas and that, owing to the extent of the cross-cutting nature of the issue, a whole-of-government approach focusing on the capacity of Governments to effectively bring together several policy strands for comprehensive action is essential,

Underlining the important role that States can play in raising awareness among private sector entities about the possible theft, diversion and misuse of their products to make improvised explosive devices, with a view to enabling business entities to develop effective strategies to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices,[292] including to prevent the adverse impact of the diversion of materials and the potential loss of revenue and risk to reputation,

Noting the contribution of good governance, the promotion of human rights, the rule of law and sustained and inclusive socioeconomic growth, including through effective measures and mechanisms for persons belonging to vulnerable groups, as important elements in comprehensively addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, in particular in post-conflict situations,

Stressing the paramount need to prevent illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients from, and identify the networks that support them in, obtaining, handling, financing, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military or civilian, as well as other military or civilian materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices, including detonators, detonating cords and chemical components, while at the same time avoiding any undue restrictions on the legitimate use of those materials,

Stressing also the importance of securing conventional ammunition stockpiles in order to mitigate the risk of their diversion to illicit use as materials for improvised explosive devices,

Stressing further the importance of engagement by all Member States in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter the global threat posed by improvised explosive devices in the hands of illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account national capacities,

Noting that, at the global level, organizations across many sectors have expertise that can contribute to a useful set of measures for the mitigation of improvised explosive devices, and noting also the value of considered and coordinated efforts by various stakeholders, including intergovernmental organizations, with a view to investing effectively in coordination and information exchange,

Noting also the discussions on the issue of improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)[293] and on the technical annex to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V)[294] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[295]

Noting further the multilateral efforts to counter improvised explosive devices of the Programme Global Shield, led by the World Customs Organization and assisted by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to prevent the smuggling and illicit diversion of precursor chemicals that could be used to build improvised explosive devices, the network of regional and multilateral communities of action established by States to counter improvised explosive devices, the research on those devices undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the work undertaken by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations to mitigate the threat posed by those devices to civilians, United Nations staff, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, in particular in the field,

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[292] See the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

[293] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[294] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

[295] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.

Taking note of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings[296] and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[297]

Reaffirming the inherent right of Member States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/46,[298] and takes note of the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recognizes* that existing approaches in multilateral arms regulation, while valuable, do not fully address the issue of improvised explosive devices, and therefore strongly urges States to develop and implement, where appropriate, all national measures, including outreach and partnerships with relevant actors, including the private sector, necessary to promote awareness and vigilance among their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and/or storage of precursor components and materials that could be used to make improvised explosive devices;

3. *Strongly encourages* States, where appropriate, to develop and adopt their own national policy to counter improvised explosive devices that includes civilian-military cooperation, to strengthen their countermeasure capability, to prevent their territory from being used for terrorist purposes and to combat illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients in their use of improvised explosive devices, while bearing in mind their obligations under applicable international law, and notes that the policy could include measures to support international and regional efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate attacks using improvised explosive devices and their widespread consequences;

4. *Stresses* the need for States to take appropriate measures to strengthen the management of their national ammunition stockpiles to prevent the diversion of materials for making improvised explosive devices to illicit markets, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, and encourages the application of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines for the safer and more secure management of ammunition stockpiles, while also recognizing the importance of capacity-building in this regard;[299]

5. *Underlines* that, for the issue of improvised explosive devices to be effectively addressed, it is essential to comprehend the importance of action needed at the local and community levels; through activities ranging from awareness-raising with local retailers and intelligence-gathering to establishing deradicalization programmes, Governments will need to engage continuously with local authorities and groups;

6. *Encourages* States to enhance, as appropriate, international and regional cooperation, including the sharing of information on good practices as appropriate and where relevant, in cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization, in order to address the theft, diversion, loss and illicit use of materials for making improvised explosive devices, while ensuring the security of sensitive information that is shared;

7. *Also encourages* States to take measures to stem the transfer of knowledge of improvised explosive devices and their construction and use by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, as well as the illicit acquisition of components over the Internet;

8. *Further encourages* States to participate, in accordance with their obligations and commitments, in the ongoing work on improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)[293] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects;[295]

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[296] Ibid., vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[297] Resolution 60/288.

[298] A/71/187.

[299] The General Assembly, in its resolution 66/42, welcomed the completion of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and the establishment of the "SaferGuard" knowledge resource management programme for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition.

9. *Encourages* States to participate, as appropriate, in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter improvised explosive devices in accordance with their respective international obligations and commitments, and to consider supporting the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization, the proposal for a counter-improvised explosive device global alliance emanating from the inaugural International Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Leaders' Forum, held in Canberra from 2 to 4 September 2015, and other multilateral and regional efforts;

10. *Encourages* States and international, regional and other organizations with relevant expertise and that are in a position to do so to render to interested States, upon their request, technical, financial and material assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of such States to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices, including through assistance for developing good practices for the protection of civilians from attacks using improvised explosive devices, and to provide appropriate assistance to the victims of such attacks;

11. *Encourages* States to respond to the needs of today's peacekeepers to operate in new threat environments involving improvised explosive devices, including by providing, in consultation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the appropriate training, capabilities, information and knowledge management and technology that is required to counter improvised explosive devices, and to ensure that adequate financial resources are allocated to meet such needs;

12. *Recognizes* that improvised explosive devices are used in terrorist activities, takes note of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and urges its further attention to the issue of improvised explosive devices in line with the mandates of its associated entities;

13. *Urges* Member States to comply fully with all relevant United Nations resolutions, including those related to preventing terrorist groups from using and accessing materials that can be used in the making of improvised explosive devices;[300]

14. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to continue to build upon existing awareness and risk education campaigns regarding the urgent threat of improvised explosive devices;

15. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations to engage, as appropriate, business entities in discussions and initiatives on countering improvised explosive devices, including on issues such as accountability for dual-use components, improving the regulation of explosive precursors, where possible and as appropriate, strengthening security for the transport of explosives and at explosive facilities, as well as enhancing the vetting procedures for personnel with access to explosives, while avoiding undue restrictions on the legitimate use of and access to such materials;

16. *Strongly encourages* States to share information on a voluntary basis on the diversion of commercial-grade explosives and commercially available detonators to the illicit trade, and transfers to illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, through relevant channels including, but not limited to, the INTERPOL Chemical Anti-Smuggling Enforcement and Chemical Risk Identification and Mitigation programmes and the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization;

17. *Takes into account* the existing initiatives at the international, regional and national levels to counter improvised explosive devices, and encourages the engagement by States in an open and inclusive dialogue on steps forward to harmonize diverse ongoing efforts;

18. *Urges* States in a position to do so to contribute funding to the diverse areas of work needed to effectively address the issue of improvised explosive devices, including research, clearance, ammunition stockpile management, preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, awareness-raising, capacity-building, information management and victim assistance, through existing trust funds and arrangements, including those of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, or through regional or national programmes;

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[300] Including Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015) and 2255 (2015).

19. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs to establish, where feasible and in coordination with other relevant entities, an online hub providing impartial, authoritative information relevant to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices in a comprehensive manner, thus facilitating access to existing initiatives, policies and tools presenting good practices, inside and outside the United Nations system, filling gaps where needed but avoiding duplication;

20. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to support the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in consultation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, in developing a voluntary self-assessment tool to assist States in identifying gaps and challenges in their national regulation and preparedness regarding improvised explosive devices;

21. *Recognizes* the important contribution of civil society to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, including in clearance, awareness-raising, risk education, victim assistance and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in particular at the local and community levels;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution, acknowledging and taking into account existing efforts and seeking the views of Member States;

23. *Encourages* States to hold open, informal consultations, where appropriate, in preparation for the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, focusing on matters of coordination between the various existing initiatives and approaches relating to improvised explosive devices within the United Nations system and beyond, with information provided by States, international and regional organizations, as well as experts from non-governmental organizations, on efforts to prevent, counter and mitigate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, which could thus assist the Assembly in maintaining a comprehensive overview of relevant global activities;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices".

RESOLUTION 71/73

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[301]

71/73. United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[302]

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[303] to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[304] including its decision to continue the programme,

Noting that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and a better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

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[301] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand and United States of America.

[302] A/71/95 and Corr.1.

[303] Resolution S-10/2.

[304] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its 38 years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

Recognizing the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

Recalling all the resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

Believing that the forms of assistance available under the programme to Member States, in particular to developing countries, will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[304] and the guidelines approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;[305]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success, in particular to the Governments of China, Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the United States of America for continuing extensive and highly educative study visits for the participants in the programme during 2015 and 2016;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Court of Justice, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for organizing specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

RESOLUTION 71/74

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[306]

71/74. United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[307]

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

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[305] A/33/305.

[306] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Samoa, Spain, Thailand and Uruguay.

[307] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

Recalling its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998, 55/34 A of 20 November 2000, 57/90 of 22 November 2002, 59/103 of 3 December 2004, 61/95 of 6 December 2006, 63/81 of 2 December 2008, 65/81 of 8 December 2010, 67/67 of 3 December 2012, and 69/71 of 2 December 2014,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[308]

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating, as widely as possible, information on arms control and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

3. *Commends with satisfaction* the launch of *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* for 2014 and 2015, as well as its online editions, by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme continue to inform, educate and generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms control and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and that it focus its efforts:

(*a*) To continue to publish *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, the flagship publication of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in all official languages, as well as its *Occasional Papers*, *Study Series* and other ad hoc information materials in accordance with the current practice;

(*b*) To continue to update the disarmament website as a part of the United Nations website in as many official languages as feasible;

(*c*) To promote the use of the Programme as a means to provide information related to progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament measures;

(*d*) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(*e*) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of all support extended to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and once again invites all Member States to make further contributions to the Fund with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[309] which reviews the implementation of the recommendations made in the 2002 study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[310]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

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[308] A/71/153.

[309] A/71/124 and Add.1.

[310] A/57/124.

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

RESOLUTION 71/75

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23),[311] by a recorded vote of 128 to 50, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Marshall Islands, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Sudan, Uzbekistan

71/75. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[312]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[313] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and which would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

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[311] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Chile, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[312] A/51/218, annex.

[313] Resolution S-10/2.

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2016 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 70/62 of 7 December 2015,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RESOLUTION 71/76

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[114]

71/76. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stipulated that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the Regional Centre, the most recent of which is resolution 70/66 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling further its resolution 67/48 of 3 December 2012, in which the General Assembly recognized the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

Noting that 2016 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the Regional Centre,

Welcoming the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre, the African Union and African subregional organizations, in particular their institutions in the fields of disarmament, peace and security, as well as between the Centre and relevant United Nations bodies and programmes in Africa, and considering the communiqué adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 200th meeting, held in Addis Ababa on 21 August 2009,

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[114] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Georgia, Germany, and Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

Recalling the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[315] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

Recalling also the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States, which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States, which is of particular relevance in 2016 as the Regional Centre celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of its establishment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[316]

2. *Commends* the Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for its sustained support to Member States over the past 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in response to the evolving needs of African Member States and the region's new and emerging challenges in the areas of disarmament, peace and security, including maritime security;

4. *Also welcomes* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to provide capacity-building, technical assistance programmes and advisory services to the African Union Commission, subregional organizations and African Member States on the control of small arms and light weapons, including on stockpile management and destruction, the Arms Trade Treaty[317] and issues related to weapons of mass destruction, as detailed in the report of the Secretary-General;

5. *Further welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its assistance to the African Union Commission in the elaboration and implementation of the African Union Strategy on the Control of Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy and in the elaboration of the African Union Common Position on an Arms Trade Treaty, as well as its assistance to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[318]

6. *Welcomes* efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provided to Central African States in the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[319] as well as the substantive support provided by the Centre to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, to Central and West African States in the elaboration of their respective common positions on the Arms Trade Treaty, to West Africa on the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and on security sector reform initiatives, to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons and to African Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction;[320]

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[315] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

[316] A/71/128.

[317] See resolution 67/234 B.

[318] A/50/426, annex.

[319] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[320] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

8. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States, upon request, on the Arms Trade Treaty, including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and workshops;

9. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of African States;

10. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa in view of the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Regional Centre and in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;[315]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

RESOLUTION 71/77

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[321]

71/77. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolution 70/63 of 7 December 2015, as well as all previous resolutions on the Regional Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional and subregional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development, and emphasizing the role of the Centre in providing support for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[322]

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[323] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to several countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance activities for the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control instruments,

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[321] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

[322] Resolution 70/1.

[323] A/71/127.

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament and non-proliferation instruments,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate and in line with the requests for assistance by Member States,

Welcoming the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[324]

Welcoming also the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to some States, upon request, in the management and securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities, in particular the establishment of a regional training centre in Port of Spain to manage weapons stockpiles,

Welcoming further the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010, 67/48 of 3 December 2012, 68/33 of 5 December 2013 and 69/61 of 2 December 2014,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[325] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining the support provided by the Regional Centre for strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[326] as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Recognizing the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Welcoming, during 2017, the thirtieth anniversary of the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament and the activities to promote their important role in providing support for the initiatives and programmes requested by the Member States for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;

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[324] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[325] See A/59/119.

[326] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

2. *Welcomes* the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, nuclear disarmament, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States, as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and maximizing the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development, in the promotion of the participation of women in this field and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development and to provide, upon request and in accordance with its mandate, support to Member States of the region in the national implementation of relevant instruments, inter alia, the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[324] and the Arms Trade Treaty,[327] as well as in the implementation of the Caribbean 1540 programme on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTION 71/78

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[328]

71/78. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

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[327] See resolution 67/234 B.

[328] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

Welcoming the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/52 of 5 December 2007,

Welcoming also the joint efforts by the Government of Nepal and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat to resume the operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu, following the temporary relocation of the Centre to Bangkok in the aftermath of the earthquakes in Nepal in 2015,

Recalling the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[329] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including a workshop on capacity-building for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in Manila on 25 and 26 November 2015; the fourteenth United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues, held in Seoul on 7 and 8 December 2015; a workshop on building national capacity in small arms and light weapons control, held in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 and 24 February 2016; a South-East Asia regional capacity-building workshop, held in Bangkok on 4 and 5 April 2016; and a workshop on building national and regional capacity for the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty in the Pacific, held in Apia from 13 to 15 September 2016,

Expressing appreciation for the timely execution by Nepal of its host country commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out in the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Regional Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing the necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

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[329] A/71/125.

RESOLUTION 71/79

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[330]

71/79. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 70/64 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Reaffirming that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Noting the Second Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 22 to 26 August 2016, and noting also the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 6 to 10 June 2016,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,[331]

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[332] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[333] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[334]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[335]

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[330] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Central African Republic (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States).

[331] A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

[332] A/50/474, annex I.

[333] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[334] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[335] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

Recalling its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolution 70/301 of 9 September 2016, and welcoming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and taking note in this regard of the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of a new framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention,

Welcoming the holding of the presidential and legislative elections in the Central African Republic, which led to the re-establishment of the constitutional order with the election of a President and the formation of a new Government, and taking note in that context of the reinstatement of the Central African Republic as a member of the African Union on 7 April 2016,

Expressing continued concern about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of making tangible progress, in particular with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, in the run-up to the donors' conference to be held in Brussels in November 2016,

Expressing concern about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in order to effectively combat the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad Basin region, and taking note of the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the African Union to support the Task Force,

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

3. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,[336] and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

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[336] See resolution 67/234 B.

4. *Welcomes* the steps taken by States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to facilitate the early entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[337] and encourages States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa,[331] and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

6. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to accelerate their efforts to implement the integrated strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa;

7. *Encourages* the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States, in coordination with the African Union Commission, to accelerate joint efforts to adopt a comprehensive strategy to more effectively and urgently combat the threat posed by Boko Haram, and in this regard urges the two subregional organizations to convene their joint summit at the earliest opportunity in order to adopt a common strategy and develop active cooperation and coordination;

8. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

9. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

10. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the African Charter on maritime safety and security and development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

11. *Expresses concern* over the negative impact that poaching and wildlife trafficking have on the ecosystem, human development and regional security, and calls upon Member States to take immediate concerted action to counter this phenomenon, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 69/314 and 70/301;

12. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

13. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests in this regard the assistance of the Secretary-General;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention, as adopted on 19 November 2010 at the thirty-first ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;[338]

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[337] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[338] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

17. *Welcomes* the contribution made by the Congo to the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (Libreville Declaration) on 8 May 2009,[339] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the Trust Fund;

18. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

19. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

20. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the strengthening of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

22. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

23. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

RESOLUTION 71/80

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/451, para. 23)[340]

71/80. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010, 66/53 of 2 December 2011,

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[339] See A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex.

[340] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

67/63 of 3 December 2012, 68/57 of 5 December 2013, 69/70 of 2 December 2014 and 70/61 of 7 December 2015 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[341] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[342] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[343]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Noting that the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean will be marked in 2016 and 2017,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that, in paragraph 178 of the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 30 and 31 August 2012,[344] the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and further strengthening of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Commends* the three regional centres for peace and disarmament for their sustained support to Member States over the past 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

4. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

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[341] A/71/128.

[342] A/71/125.

[343] A/71/127.

[344] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/81

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/452, para. 10)[345]

71/81. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[346]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support and concern for the endeavours of the Conference and as calls for the Conference to immediately commence negotiations to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2016 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work, including negotiations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/67 of 7 December 2015, or in agreeing on and implementing a programme of work,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament without further delay, on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2016 session,

Noting with appreciation the significant contributions made at the 2016 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, including the informal discussions, and noting the discussions on the functioning of the Conference on Disarmament, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Emphasizing the importance of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

Recognizing the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

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[345] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Republic of Korea.

[346] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/71/27).

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2017 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2016 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2017 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,[147] as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Acknowledges* the fact that the Conference on Disarmament has held a series of substantive formal and informal discussions on items on the agenda of the Conference;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President of the Conference to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

6. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2017 session;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2017 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

9. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on its work;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 71/82

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/452, para. 10)[148]

71/82. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[149]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of

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[147] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Vanuatu (on behalf of the members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission).

[149] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/71/42).

9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010, 66/60 of 2 December 2011, 67/71 of 3 December 2012, 68/63 of 5 December 2013, 69/77 of 2 December 2014 and 70/68 of 7 December 2015,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission",[190] Assembly decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission and Assembly resolution 61/98, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[191]

Emphasizing once again the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[189]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament, notes that the Commission has not submitted any substantive recommendations to the General Assembly in the course of the past 17 years, and thus encourages the revitalization of the work of the Commission in its current triennial cycle;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion on the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[191] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982 and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[190]

5. *Recalls* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492, at its 355th meeting, on 4 April 2016, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2016,[189] on the understanding that consultations would continue on ways and means to implement resolution 69/77, and that the Commission decided that the agenda for its substantive session of 2015 should serve for the period 2015–2017;

6. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2017:

(*a*) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

7. *Notes* the consultations with Member States conducted by the Chair of the Disarmament Commission during its intersessional period regarding a working paper containing a proposal for the inclusion of a third item in

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[190] Resolution 44/119 C, annex.

[191] Resolution S-10/2.

its agenda for the remaining period of the present triennial cycle[152] in the context of considering ways and means to implement General Assembly resolution 69/77, in accordance with Assembly decision 52/492, and encourages the Commission to hold informal discussions on the subject contained in the above-mentioned working paper during the substantive session of the Commission in 2017, without prejudice to the deliberations on the existing agenda items;

8. *Also notes* that the Disarmament Commission encourages the Chairs of its working groups to continue, during the intersessional period, informal consultations on the agenda item allocated to each of the groups;

9. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to invite, as appropriate, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to prepare background papers on the items on its agenda and, if need be, other disarmament experts to present their views, as provided for in paragraph 3 (*c*) of resolution 61/98, upon the invitation of the Chair and with the prior approval of the Commission;

10. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2017, namely from 3 to 21 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, and stresses that the report of the Commission should contain a summary by the Chair of the proceedings to reflect different views or positions if no agreement can be reached on the specific agenda item deliberated on, as provided for in paragraph 3.4 of the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 2016 session,[153] together with all the official records of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

12. *Invites* Member States to submit their views and proposals on the matter early enough to enable practical consultations among them prior to the beginning of the substantive session of 2017 of the Disarmament Commission, with a view to facilitating its constructive outcome, and in this regard encourages the Chair-designate to commence consultations and preparations for the substantive session of 2017 in a timely manner upon his or her nomination;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

RESOLUTION 71/83

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/453, para. 8),[154] by a recorded vote of 157 to 5, with 22 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar,

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[152] A/CN.10/2016/WP.1.

[153] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/71/27).

[154] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and State of Palestine.

Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Romania, South Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

71/83. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 70/70 of 7 December 2015,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(60)/RES/15, adopted on 29 September 2016,

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[355] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[356] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[357] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on 11 May 1995,[355] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty, and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

Acknowledging that, in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[358] the Conference emphasized the importance of a process leading to full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and decided, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the

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[355] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[356] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[357] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[358] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

United Nations and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, would convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region, and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States,

Expressing regret and concern that the conference was not convened in 2012 as mandated and that little progress has been achieved towards the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

Noting, in this context, the relevant resolutions of the League of Arab States aiming at the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[359]

Recalling that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become a party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that 183 States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[360] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Recalls* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[361] and calls for the speedy and full implementation of the commitments contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty[355] is an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Conference and of the basis on which the Treaty was indefinitely extended without a vote in 1995;

3. *Reiterates* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved;

4. *Calls for* immediate steps towards the full implementation of that resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[356] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

6. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[359] A/71/135 (Part II).

[360] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[361] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, sect. IV.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 71/84

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/454, para. 8)[362]

71/84. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/71 of 7 December 2015,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[363] and its amended article 1,[364] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[363] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[363] and its amended version,[365] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[363] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[366] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[367]

Recalling with satisfaction also the results of the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 14 to 25 November 2011,

Noting the results of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva on 12 and 13 November 2015,

Welcoming the results of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Annual Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 11 November 2015 and 30 August 2016, respectively,

Welcoming also the results of the Ninth and Tenth Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 9 and 10 November 2015 and 29 August 2016, respectively,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of various categories of conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[363] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

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[362] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Sri Lanka.

[363] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[364] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.

[365] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[366] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.

[367] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[367]

4. *Welcomes* the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as the consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and of the respective office holders of the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Protocol V and Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the following decisions by the Fourth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(*a*) The adoption of an accelerated plan of action to promote universality of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(*b*) The adoption of actions to enhance the implementation of the compliance mechanism for the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

(*c*) The continuation of the Sponsorship Programme within the framework of the Convention; and, with recognition of the value and importance of the Sponsorship Programme, encourages States to contribute to it;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to convene the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in Geneva from 12 to 16 December 2016, and encourages all efforts towards its successful conclusion;

8. *Also welcomes* the commitment by States parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law and in this context to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision of the 2015 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention to convene in 2016 a five-day informal meeting of experts to discuss the questions related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems and to agree by consensus on recommendations for further work for consideration by the Fifth Review Conference, welcomes the informal discussions held from 11 to 15 April 2016, and takes note of the comprehensive report of the Chair and the recommendations;

10. *Welcomes* the commitment of States parties to Protocol V to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

11. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

12. *Acknowledges* the work of the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision by the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

13. *Notes* the work of the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Fifth Review Conference held from 31 August to 2 September 2016 under the overall responsibility of the President-designate of the Fifth Review Conference;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services as may be required for the Fifth Review Conference, to be held from 12 to 16 December 2016, and other annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1[364] and the Protocols;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 71/85

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/455, para. 7)[368]

71/85. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 70/72 of 7 December 2015,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recalling, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

Welcoming the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[369] as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

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[368] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chad, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe.

[369] A/50/426, annex.

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[370]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[371]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Calls upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

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[370] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[371] A/71/156 and Add.1.

RESOLUTION 71/86

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/456, para. 7),[372] by a recorded vote of 183 to 1, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: India, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic

71/86. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and will be a major contribution to international peace and security,

Stressing also the vital importance and urgency of achieving the entry into force of the Treaty, as noted also in Security Council resolution 2310 (2016) of 23 September 2016, and affirming its resolute determination, 20 years after the Treaty was opened for signature, to achieve its entry into force,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 183 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 166 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 70/73 of 7 December 2015,

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[372] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

Recalling also the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[373] in which the Conference, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming the 20 Years CTBT Ministerial Meeting, held in Vienna on 13 and 14 June 2016, which brought together leaders and policymakers to review and reinvigorate efforts to achieve the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming also the Final Declaration adopted by the ninth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 29 September 2015, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 21 September 2016,[374]

Noting that the group of eminent persons, established to support the article XIV process, met in Vienna on 14 June 2016, where they called for new thinking and further engagement with the leadership of the remaining eight annex 2 States with the aim of facilitating their respective ratification processes,

Noting also the establishment in early 2016 of a youth group open to all students and young graduates who are directing their careers towards contributing to global peace and security and who wish to actively engage in promoting the Treaty and its verification regime,

Welcoming continuing progress in the development of the Treaty's verification regime, which advances the Treaty's primary non-proliferation and disarmament objective,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[375]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty, and encourages their continuation;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Strongly condemns* the nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 6 January and 9 September 2016, as expressed by the Security Council in its resolution 2270 (2016) of 2 March 2016 and the Security Council press statement of 9 September 2016, recalls Council resolutions 1718 (2006) of 14 October 2006, 1874 (2009) of 12 June 2009 and 2094 (2013) of 7 March 2013, calls for full compliance with the obligations under the relevant resolutions, and reaffirms its support for the Six-Party Talks;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible;

7. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

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[373] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[374] A/71/736.

[375] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

8. *Welcomes*, since its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Myanmar and Swaziland, since every ratification is a significant step towards the early entry into force of the Treaty;

9. *Also welcomes* the recent expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

10. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

11. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/73;[376]

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RESOLUTION 71/87

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/457, para. 8)[377]

71/87. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that, with the ratification and accession of two additional States,[378] there are now 175 States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[379] including all the permanent members of the Security Council, and stressing at the same time that there is a continuing need to achieve its universalization,

Reaffirming its call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calling upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, later amended by the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference, and to provide such information and data in conformity with the standardized procedure to the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declarations of the Fourth, Sixth and Seventh Review Conferences that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recognizing the importance of ongoing efforts by States parties to enhance international cooperation, assistance and the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes, recognizing also that there still remain challenges and obstacles to be overcome in order to enhance international cooperation, and recognizing further the value of building capacity through international cooperation, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

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[376] A/71/134 and Add.1.

[377] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[378] Côte d'Ivoire on 23 March 2016 (ratification) and Angola on 26 July 2016 (accession).

[379] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

Reaffirming the importance of national measures, in accordance with constitutional processes, in strengthening the implementation of the Convention by States parties, in line with the Final Document of the Seventh Review Conference,

Reaffirming also the importance of the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention,

Noting the decision of the Seventh Review Conference to retain the previous structures from the 2003–2010 intersessional process, consisting of annual meetings of States parties preceded by annual meetings of experts, and to continue to allocate five days to each meeting of States parties and each meeting of experts during the 2012–2015 intersessional process, and noting also the forthcoming conclusion of the current intersessional process,

Recalling the decision of the Seventh Review Conference that the Eighth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2016,

Noting that States parties have established a transparent and inclusive preparatory process for the Eighth Review Conference to consider substantial and procedural issues related to the review of the Convention and its implementation,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful outcome of and the decisions on all provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction[379] reached at the Seventh Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate and actively engage in their continued implementation;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the outcome of the intersessional process agreed by the Seventh Review Conference and the contributions of States parties and relevant international organizations to, as well as presentations by the scientific and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations concerning, the discussion and promotion of common understandings and effective action on the standing agenda items entitled "Cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under Article X", "Review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention" and "Strengthening national implementation" and on the questions of (*a*) how to enable fuller participation in the confidence-building measures, and (*b*) how to strengthen implementation of article VII, including consideration of detailed procedures and mechanisms for the provision of assistance and cooperation by States parties, discussed in 2012 and 2013 and 2014 and 2015, respectively;

3. *Appreciates* the information and data on confidence-building measures provided by States parties to date, recalls the discussions on the biennial item on confidence-building measures in 2012 and 2013 and relevant paragraphs of the reports of the meetings of States parties, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the exchange of information and data on confidence-building measures called for in the relevant decisions of the review conferences;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a database to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange of assistance and cooperation, and urges States parties to submit to the Implementation Support Unit, on a voluntary basis, requests for and offers of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information regarding the use of biological and toxin agents for peaceful purposes;

5. *Encourages* States parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X of the Convention and to collaborate to offer assistance or training, upon request, in support of the legislative and other implementation measures of States parties needed to ensure their compliance with the Convention;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the decision of the Seventh Review Conference on the establishment of a sponsorship programme in order to support and increase the participation of developing States parties in the meetings of the intersessional programme, welcomes the increased amount of voluntary contributions made in 2016, and calls upon States parties in a position to do so to offer voluntary contributions for the programme;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Implementation Support Unit and its contribution to supporting the intersessional process;

8. *Also notes with appreciation* the two meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Eighth Review Conference, held in Geneva on 26 and 27 April and from 8 to 12 August 2016;

9. *Recalls* that the Eighth Review Conference is mandated to review the operation of the Convention with a view to assuring that the purposes of the preamble and the provisions of the Convention are being realized, as provided for in article XII thereof, and to consider issues identified in the review of the operation of the Convention as provided for in article XII thereof and any possible consensus follow-up action;

10. *Urges* all States parties to build upon the discussions of the Preparatory Committee and to continue to work together to achieve a consensus outcome of the Eighth Review Conference;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the events organized by some States parties, regional organizations and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for exchanges of views on the work of the Eighth Review Conference;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to continue to provide such services as may be required for the conduct and the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences, while noting the importance of addressing issues arising from the outstanding dues of States parties and participating States and from financial and accounting practices recently implemented by the United Nations;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 71/258

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[380] by a recorded vote of 113 to 35, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, China, Finland, India, Mali, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sudan, Switzerland, Uzbekistan

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[380] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Austria, Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

71/258. Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/56 of 3 December 2012, 68/46 of 5 December 2013, 69/41 of 2 December 2014 and 70/33 of 7 December 2015 on taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons,

Deeply concerned about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

Deeply concerned also about the risks related to the existence of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the Declaration of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[381] in which it is stated, inter alia, that all the peoples of the world have a vital interest in the success of disarmament negotiations, and that all States have the right to participate in disarmament negotiations,

Reaffirming the role and functions of the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission, as set out in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[382]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[383] in which it is stated, inter alia, that responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Welcoming the efforts by Member States to secure progress in multilateral disarmament and the support of the Secretary-General for such efforts, and recalling in this regard the Secretary-General's five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[384] which serves as the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, was negotiated considering the devastation that would be visited upon all mankind by a nuclear war and the consequent need to make every effort to avert the danger of such a war and to take measures to safeguard the security of peoples,

Recalling also the obligations of States parties to the Treaty and their commitments as reflected in the outcome documents of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[385] and of the 2000[386] and the 2010[387] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Stressing the importance of the full and effective implementation by the States parties to the Treaty of the various commitments made at the review conferences,

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

Mindful of the absence of concrete outcomes of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations within the United Nations framework for two decades, and mindful also of the obligation of States to engage in negotiations in good faith on effective measures towards nuclear disarmament,

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[381] Resolution S-10/2, sect. II.

[382] Ibid., sect. IV.

[383] Resolution 55/2.

[384] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[385] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2).

[386] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[387] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vols. I–III)).

Recognizing that the current international climate makes increased political attention to disarmament and non-proliferation issues, the promotion of multilateral disarmament and the achievement of a world without nuclear weapons all the more urgent,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013 pursuant to its resolution 67/39 of 3 December 2012, which highlighted the wish of the international community for progress in this field, and noting its resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013 as a follow-up to this meeting,

Welcoming also the report on the work of the Open-ended Working Group to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, submitted pursuant to its resolution 67/56[388] and referenced in its resolution 68/46, and noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 68/46,[389] containing the views of Member States on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including the steps that Member States have already taken to that end,

Welcoming further the efforts by all Member States, international organizations and civil society to continue to enrich the discussions on how to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations in the United Nations bodies in which disarmament and peace and security are addressed,

Bearing in mind that a legally binding instrument prohibiting nuclear weapons would be an important contribution towards comprehensive nuclear disarmament,

Bearing in mind also that additional measures, both practical and legally binding, for the irreversible, verifiable and transparent destruction of nuclear weapons would be needed in order to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness, and welcoming the participation of all Member States in the efforts to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Emphasizing the importance and urgency of securing substantive progress on priority nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issues,

Mindful of Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations concerning the functions and powers of the General Assembly to consider and make recommendations with regard to, inter alia, disarmament,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Open-ended Working Group taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, established by the General Assembly by its resolution 70/33, which met in Geneva during 2016, engaged in structured and substantive discussions in a comprehensive, inclusive, interactive and constructive manner;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group established by the General Assembly by its resolution 70/33;[390]

3. *Recognizes* the value of the participation and contribution of international organizations and civil society to taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, as demonstrated during the work of the Working Group;

4. *Reiterates* that the universal objective of taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations remains the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons, and emphasizes the importance of addressing issues related to nuclear weapons in a comprehensive, inclusive, interactive and constructive manner, for the advancement of multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

5. *Reaffirms* the urgency of securing substantive progress in multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

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[388] A/68/514.

[389] A/69/154 and Add.1.

[390] A/71/371.

6. *Recommends* that additional efforts can and should be pursued to elaborate concrete effective legal measures, legal provisions and norms that will need to be concluded to attain and maintain a world without nuclear weapons, reaffirms the importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[384] and the commitments made therein, and considers that the pursuit of any such measures, provisions and norms should complement and strengthen the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime, including the three pillars of the Treaty;

7. *Also recommends* that States consider implementing, as appropriate, the various measures suggested in the report of the Working Group that could contribute to taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations, including but not limited to transparency measures related to the risks associated with existing nuclear weapons, measures to reduce and eliminate the risk of accidental, mistaken, unauthorized or intentional nuclear weapon detonations, additional measures to increase awareness and understanding of the complexity of and interrelationship between the wide range of humanitarian consequences that would result from any nuclear detonation, and other measures that could contribute to taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

8. *Decides* to convene in 2017 a United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination;

9. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the conference;

10. *Decides* that the conference shall convene in New York, under the rules of procedure of the General Assembly unless otherwise agreed by the conference, from 27 to 31 March and from 15 June to 7 July 2017, with the participation and contribution of international organizations and civil society representatives;

11. *Also decides* that the conference will hold a one-day organizational session in New York as soon as possible;

12. *Calls upon* States participating in the conference to make their best endeavours to conclude as soon as possible a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination;

13. *Decides* that the conference shall submit a report on its progress to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, which will assess the progress made in the negotiations and decide the way forward;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the support necessary to convene the conference and to transmit the report of the conference to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission and to the United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament foreseen in paragraph 6 of resolution 68/32;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations".

RESOLUTION 71/259

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/450, para. 112),[391] by a recorded vote of 158 to 2, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau,

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[391] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada, Germany and Netherlands.

Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: Italy, Pakistan

Abstaining: Burundi, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

71/259. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000, 56/24 J of 29 November 2001, 57/80 of 22 November 2002, 58/57 of 8 December 2003, 59/81 of 3 December 2004, 64/29 of 2 December 2009, 65/65 of 8 December 2010, 66/44 of 2 December 2011 and 67/53 of 3 December 2012, its decisions 68/518 of 5 December 2013 and 69/516 of 2 December 2014, as well as its resolution 70/39 of 7 December 2015 on the subject of banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Recalling also document CD/1299 of 24 March 1995, which indicated that all members of the Conference on Disarmament had agreed that the mandate to negotiate a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would not preclude any delegation from raising for consideration, in negotiations, any issue noted therein,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring continued international commitment and high-level attention to making practical progress on achieving a world without nuclear weapons and on non-proliferation in all its aspects,

Mindful of the continuing importance and relevance of the Conference on Disarmament and recalling the past achievements of that body in successfully negotiating non-proliferation and disarmament agreements,

Expressing frustration at the years of stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament, and looking forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Recalling action 15 of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions agreed by consensus at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[392] that, inter alia, the Conference on Disarmament should, within the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, immediately begin negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995 (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would represent a significant practical contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts,

Recognizing the essential role of fissile material in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the long-standing efforts of the international community to negotiate a treaty that would ban its production for such purposes,

Recognizing also that a future treaty should not prohibit the production of fissile material for non-proscribed military purposes or civilian use, consistent with the obligations of State parties, nor interfere in any other way with a State's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

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[392] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

Noting with appreciation the submissions by Member States to the Secretary-General containing views on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, including possible aspects thereof, and the subsequent reports submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth[393] and seventy-first sessions,[394]

Welcoming the adoption by consensus of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, mandated pursuant to resolution 67/53, as contained in document A/70/81,

Underlining that the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, mandated in resolution 67/53, as contained in document A/70/81, and the deliberations which underpin it, serve as a valuable reference for States and should be a useful resource for negotiators of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Taking note of the conclusion of the Group of Governmental Experts that the various perspectives of States on a treaty should not be an obstacle to the commencement of negotiations,

1. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement at its earliest opportunity a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a high-level fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) expert preparatory group with a membership of 25 States, chosen on the basis of equitable geographical representation, which will operate by consensus,[395] without prejudice to national positions in future negotiations, and which will meet in Geneva for a session of two weeks each in 2017 and in 2018, to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of a future non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, on the basis of CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein; the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group will also examine, with a view to making possible recommendations, the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, mandated pursuant to resolution 67/53, as contained in document A/70/81, as well as the views submitted by Member States as contained in documents A/68/154 and Add.1 and A/71/140/Rev.1 and Add.1;

3. *Requests* the Chair of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group to organize, in New York, two two-day informal consultative meetings, open-ended so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views, which the Chair shall convey to the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group for consideration; the first meeting will convene in 2017 to consider the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, as contained in document A/70/81, the second in 2018 in order for the Chair to provide a report in his own capacity on the work of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session and to the Conference on Disarmament prior to its 2019 session;

5. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to examine the report of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group and consider further action, as appropriate;

6. *Decides* that, should the Conference on Disarmament agree upon and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, all activities mandated by the present resolution shall conclude and the work of the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group shall be submitted to the Secretary-General for onward transmittal to the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the high-level FMCT expert preparatory group and its Chair all the necessary assistance, including the provision of relevant documents;

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[393] A/68/154 and Add.1.

[394] A/71/140/Rev.1 and Add.1.

[395] The high-level FMCT expert preparatory group will be governed by the rules and established practices applicable to groups of governmental experts.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices".

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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RESOLUTION 71/89

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/491, para. 8)[1]

71/89. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which humankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on humankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

Acknowledging the concerns about the radiological consequences of nuclear accidents,

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Committee,

Emphasizing the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

Recognizing the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work, such as after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station,

Considering that the high quality of the work and the scientific rigour of the Scientific Committee need to be maintained in the future,

Recognizing the importance of disseminating the findings of the Scientific Committee, in particular to the public, and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling in that context principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2]

Noting the desirability that the resources of the Scientific Committee be sufficient, assured and predictable, and recognizing the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Committee,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution that it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of exposure to ionizing radiation and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgment;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Scientific Committee, and takes note of the report on its sixty-third session,[3] including the consideration of its long-term strategic directions, and encourages the Committee, over its coming sessions, to work towards implementing strategies to support its efforts to serve the scientific community as well as wider audiences;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Japan, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Palau, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine and United States of America.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/71/46).

4. *Appreciates* that the Scientific Committee has made arrangements for activities to follow up on its 2013 evaluation of the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the nuclear accident after the 2011 great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami, such as the systematic review of scientific information that has been published since the completion of the Committee's evaluation,[4] welcomes the publication of the second review, and encourages the secretariat of the Committee to disseminate the findings of the Committee's systematic reviews, in particular, to the public;

5. *Welcomes* the four substantive scientific evaluations completed by the Scientific Committee during its sixty-third session, as presented in its report, notes with appreciation the Committee's reports on the methodology for estimating public exposures due to radioactive discharges, on radiation exposures from electricity generation and on biological effects of selected internal emitters (tritium and radioisotopes of uranium),[5] and looks forward to the publication of the supporting scientific annexes thereto;

6. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

7. *Supports* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for conducting its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its next periodic global surveys of radiation exposure, to be conducted in close cooperation with other relevant organizations, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

8. *Welcomes* developments in streamlining procedures for publishing the reports of the Scientific Committee electronically on its official website and as sales publications, and calls upon the secretariat to monitor the timely publication of those reports and to continue to strive to publish them within the same calendar year as their approval;

9. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

10. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

11. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

12. *Recalls* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about levels, effects and risks of radiation exposure from various sources, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Committee to the General Assembly, and encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant organizations to further collaborate with the secretariat on arrangements for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposures of patients, workers and the public;

13. *Welcomes* the use and ongoing development by the secretariat of an online platform for collecting data on medical exposures, encourages Member States to take part in the Scientific Committee's global surveys of radiation exposure, and also encourages Member States to nominate a national contact person to facilitate coordination of the collection and submission of data on exposures of patients, workers and the public within their country;

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[4] Ibid., chap. II, sect. B.

[5] Ibid., chap. III.

14. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue, within existing resources, to actively support the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and the dissemination of its findings to Member States, the scientific community and the public;

15. *Takes note*, in this regard, of the Scientific Committee's outreach strategy for the coming years, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the publication of informative leaflets and posters in all the official languages of the United Nations, and continues to encourage that consideration be given to publishing the website in all of those languages;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to maintain appropriate funding for the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 70/81 of 9 December 2015;

17. *Encourages* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and also to make contributions in kind, in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee, and the dissemination of its findings, in a sustainable manner;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 66/70 of 9 December 2011, notes the expression of interest by Member States in membership in the Scientific Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the Assembly at its seventy-second session with a list of the Member States that have expressed their particular interest in membership in the Committee by 11 September 2017, for consideration for membership pursuant to the above-mentioned paragraph.

RESOLUTION 71/90

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/492, para. 9)[6]

71/90. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/82 of 9 December 2015 and 70/230 of 23 December 2015,

Emphasizing the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities,

Recognizing, in that regard, the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

Emphasizing the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50), to be commemorated in 2018, which will be an opportunity to consider the current status and chart the future of the contribution of the Committee to global governance of outer space activities, and for which the Committee and its subsidiary bodies have made progress in the preparatory work for their thematic sessions in 2018,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all

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[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of international law, including the relevant norms of international space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[7]

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Deeply concerned about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris which is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

Convinced that space science and technology and their applications, including satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[8]

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters,[9] and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Firmly convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as tele-health, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and ocean and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, including Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

Recalling the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[10]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-ninth session,[11]

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[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[8] Resolution 70/1.

[9] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

[10] Resolution 66/288, annex, para. 274.

[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20).

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-ninth session,[11] with the exception of the annex thereto, which, together with a preambular text and a second set of guidelines, will form a full compendium of guidelines, to be adopted by the Committee and referred to the General Assembly in 2018;[12]

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its sixtieth session, should consider the substantive items recommended at its fifty-ninth session,[13] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

3. *Notes* that, at its fifty-fifth session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[14] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/82;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-sixth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[15] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[16] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the space law curriculum developed by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat and published in all official languages of the United Nations could encourage further studies within States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy;

7. *Notes* that, at its fifty-third session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[17] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/82;

8. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[18] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

9. *Reiterates* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity in predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and notes with satisfaction the establishment of and work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to implement the recommendations for an international response to the near-Earth object impact threat, with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, serving as the permanent secretariat of the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group;[19]

10. *Declares* 30 June International Asteroid Day to observe each year at the international level the anniversary of the Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation, on 30 June 1908 and to raise public awareness about the asteroid impact hazard;

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[12] The annex to the report of the Committee, entitled "Guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities: first set", is not submitted to the General Assembly for action. The preambular text and the second set of guidelines are still to be completed to form a full compendium of guidelines, which is to be referred to the Assembly at its seventy-third session, in 2018 (see paras. 133–137 of the report).

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 318.

[14] Ibid., chap. II.C; and A/AC.105/1113.

[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), paras. 212–214.

[16] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

[17] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), chap. II.B; and A/AC.105/1109.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), paras. 145–147.

[19] Ibid., para. 119; ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/70/20), para. 153; ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/68/20), para. 144; and A/AC.105/1038, para. 198, and annex III.

11. *Notes with appreciation* that some States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[20] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

12. *Considers* that it is essential that States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

13. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, and agrees that the Committee should continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation to that end;

15. *Decides* to convene, within existing resources, a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), to constitute a joint contribution by the First and Fourth Committees to the fiftieth anniversary of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space", a sub-item entitled "Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability";[21]

16. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee, at its fifty-ninth session, agreed on seven thematic priorities of UNISPACE+50, including their objectives and mechanisms;[22]

17. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in fostering capacity-building in the use of space science and technology and their applications and in providing assistance to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation in conformity with international space law, as well as in the strengthening of institutional capacity in space activities, and urges all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund in Support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to enhance the capacity of the Office to provide technical and legal advisory services in its priority thematic areas;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the workshops and symposiums held by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in 2016, and requests the Office to continue to apprise the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee, at their respective sessions in 2017, of the status of its capacity-building activities;[23]

19. *Recognizes* the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provide unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and recognizes the significant

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[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), annex.

[21] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 273; and A/AC.105/1113, annex I, para. 19 (*c*).

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 296.

[23] Ibid., para. 60. See also A/AC.105/1107, annex II, and resolution 70/230.

achievements made and the advisory support provided to 38 Member States within the framework of UN-SPIDER since its establishment in 2006[24] with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

21. *Reiterates* the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[25] in which the value of space-based technology and Earth observation for disaster management and emergency response is recognized, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Office for Outer Space Affairs and its UN-SPIDER programme towards promoting international cooperation as a way to enhance the use of space-based technologies and related services at the national and local levels;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee will hold its eleventh meeting in Sochi, Russian Federation, from 6 to 11 November 2016;

23. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, located in China, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2016, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

24. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[8] to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

25. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by organizations such as the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the European Space Agency and by conferences and other mechanisms such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and the Space Conference of the Americas in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States;

26. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

27. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

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[24] Resolution 61/110.

[25] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

28. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data, with the involvement of the Office for Outer Space Affairs;

29. *Encourages* the Office for Outer Space Affairs to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes, and other activities in support of the objectives of UNISPACE+50, as appropriate, and to conduct capacity-building activities, hold lectures and participate in academic and research activities to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

30. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

31. *Encourages* the Office for Outer Space Affairs to continue to conduct capacity-building and outreach activities associated with space security and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as appropriate, and within the context of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;

32. *Decides* that New Zealand shall become a member of the Committee;

33. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the International Air Transport Association;[26]

34. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

RESOLUTION 71/91

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/493, para. 18),[27] by a recorded vote of 167 to 1, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Paraguay, South Sudan, United States of America

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[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/71/20), para. 315.

[27] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

71/91. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 70/83 of 9 December 2015,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the fact that, for more than six decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the Agency has played for over 65 years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the Agency covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015,[28]

Taking note also of the update to the special report of 3 August 2015 of the Commissioner-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV),[29] which was conveyed by the Secretary-General on 15 September 2016 to the President of the General Assembly, and expressing concern regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

Aware of the growing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socioeconomic living conditions,

Expressing grave concern in particular at the grave humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[30] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and reiterates its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly on the efforts being exerted in this regard as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2017;

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[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/71/13).

[29] A/70/272, annex.

[30] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services, including emergency assistance, for the well-being, protection and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to strengthen their efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures and needs arising from conflicts and instability in the region and the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those needs mentioned in recent emergency, recovery and reconstruction appeals and plans for the Gaza Strip and in the regional crisis response plans to address the situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and those Palestine refugees who have fled to countries in the region;

5. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate;

6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 2020, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

RESOLUTION 71/92

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/493, para. 18),[31] by a recorded vote of 166 to 6, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo

71/92. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 70/84 of 9 December 2015,[32]

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[32] A/71/340.

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015,[33]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[34] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

Taking note also of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Stresses* the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons, and calls for compliance with the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[34] on the return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meantime, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its seventy-second session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/93

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/493, para. 18),[35] by a recorded vote of 167 to 6, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Nauru, Paraguay, South Sudan

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[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/71/13).

[34] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[35] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

71/93. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 70/85 of 9 December 2015,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015,[36]

Taking note of the letter dated 31 May 2016 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the Agency addressed to the Commissioner-General,[37] and noting the extraordinary meeting of the Commission held on 8 September 2016,

Underlining that, at a time of heightened conflict and instability in the Middle East, the Agency continues to play a vital role in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of, inter alia, essential education, health, relief and social services programmes and emergency assistance to a registered population of 5.3 million refugees whose situation has become extremely precarious, and in providing a crucial measure of stability in the region,

Deeply concerned about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency, caused by the structural underfunding of the Agency, as well as by rising needs and expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the conflicts and rising instability in the region and their significant negative impact on the ability of the Agency to deliver essential services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency, recovery, reconstruction and development programmes in all fields of operation,

Taking note of the update to the special report of 3 August 2015 of the Commissioner-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) and conveyed by the Secretary-General on 15 September 2016 to the President of the General Assembly, regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core Agency programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

Expressing appreciation for the efforts of donors and host countries to respond to the continuing financial crisis, and expressing particular appreciation to the donors that extended generous support following the special report of the Commissioner-General of 3 August 2015 and the update thereto, of 15 September 2016, while acknowledging the steadfast support of all other donors to the Agency, and stressing the need for urgent efforts to comprehensively address the recurrent funding shortfalls affecting the Agency's operations,

Recognizing the Agency's efforts to develop innovative and diversified means to mobilize resources, including through partnerships with international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society,

Commending the Agency for the measures taken to address the financial crisis, including internal measures to contain costs, and expressing profound concern that, despite stringent efficiency measures and controls on expenditures, the Agency's programme budget, which is funded primarily by voluntary contributions from Member States and intergovernmental organizations, faces persistent shortfalls that are increasingly threatening the delivery of the Agency's core programmes of assistance to the Palestine refugees,

Stressing the need to support the Agency's capacity to uphold its mandate and to avert the serious humanitarian, political and security risks that would result from any interruption or suspension of its vital work,

Recognizing that the recurring and growing financial shortfalls directly affecting the sustainability of the Agency's operations need to be remedied by examining new funding modalities designed to put the Agency on a stable financial footing to enable it to effectively carry out its core programmes in accordance with its mandate and commensurate with humanitarian needs,

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[36] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/71/13).

[37] Ibid., pp. 6 and 7.

Welcoming the affirmation in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016,[38] that, inter alia, the Agency, along with other relevant organizations, requires sufficient funding to be able to carry out its activities effectively and in a predictable manner,

Welcoming also the support for the Agency reaffirmed at the ministerial meetings convened on 26 September 2015 and 4 May 2016, at the high-level conference convened on 2 June 2015 in New York to commemorate the sixty-fifth anniversary of the commencement of the Agency's operations and at other high-level meetings,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[39]

Recalling also the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[40]

Recalling further its resolutions 70/104 of 10 December 2015 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and the protection of United Nations personnel and 70/106 of 10 December 2015 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, calling upon, inter alia, all States to ensure respect for and the protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, to respect the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises,

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[41] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, namely Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[42] including the pledge that no one will be left behind, emphasizing that the Sustainable Development Goals apply to all, including refugees, and that the Agency's work in assisting the Palestine refugees is essential for their human development, and underscoring the Goals and targets on education, health care and youth, among others,

Gravely concerned about the extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the recurrent military operations, continuing prolonged Israeli closures, the construction of settlements and the wall, and the severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, which have deepened unemployment and poverty rates among the refugees, with potentially lasting, long-term negative effects, while taking note of developments with regard to the situation of access there,

Deploring the conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and older persons, as well as the widespread destruction of or damage to thousands of homes and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in this regard,

Deploring also attacks affecting United Nations installations, including Agency schools sheltering displaced civilians, and all other breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises during the conflict in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[43] and by the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[44] and stressing the imperative of ensuring accountability,

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[38] Resolution 71/1.

[39] Resolution 22 A (I).

[40] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[41] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

[42] Resolution 70/1.

[43] S/2015/286, annex.

[44] See A/HRC/29/52.

Gravely concerned about the lasting negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, in November 2012 and in July and August 2014 on the humanitarian and socioeconomic situation of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, including high rates of food insecurity, poverty, displacement and depletion of coping capacities, and taking note in this regard of the United Nations country team report of 26 August 2016, entitled "Gaza: two years after",

Commending the Agency for its extraordinary efforts to provide shelter, emergency relief, medical, food, protection and other humanitarian assistance during the military operations of July and August 2014,

Recognizing the need for the swift implementation of all aspects of the temporary tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in September 2014, and stressing the urgent need for the lifting of all Israeli closures and restrictions on the Gaza Strip and for the reconstruction of destroyed homes and infrastructure,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009, as well as the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005,

Calling upon Israel to ensure the expedited and unimpeded import of all necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip and to reduce the burdensome cost of importation of Agency supplies, while taking note of recent developments with regard to the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations,

Expressing concern about the severe classroom shortage in the Gaza Strip and the consequent negative impact on the right to education of refugee children,

Stressing the urgent need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, including by ensuring the timely facilitation of construction projects, including extensive shelter repair, and the need for the accelerated implementation of other urgent United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities,

Welcoming contributions made to the Agency's emergency appeals for the Gaza Strip, and calling urgently upon the international community for continued support in accordance with the Agency's strategic response plan,

Urging the full disbursement of pledges made at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, for ensuring the provision of the necessary humanitarian assistance and accelerating the reconstruction process,

Stressing that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and must ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Affirming the need to support the Palestinian national consensus Government in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points,

Noting with appreciation the progress made towards rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp, commending the Government of Lebanon, donors, the Agency and other parties concerned for the continuing efforts to assist affected and displaced refugees, and emphasizing the need for additional funding to complete the reconstruction of the camp and end without delay the displacement from the camp of thousands of residents whose shelters have not been rebuilt,

Expressing deep concern at the critical situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and at the impact of the crisis on the Agency's installations and its ability to deliver its services, and regretting profoundly the loss of life and widespread displacement among refugees and the killing of 18 staff members of the Agency in the crisis since 2012,

Emphasizing the need for increased assistance to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries, and emphasizing the necessity of ensuring open borders for Palestine refugees fleeing the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and non-refoulement under international law, and recalling in this regard the statement by the President of the Security Council of 2 October 2013[45] and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,

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[45] S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

Aware of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees, and recalling the need for the protection of all civilians in situations of armed conflict,

Deploring the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and the damage and destruction caused to the facilities and properties of the Agency during the period covered by the report of the Commissioner-General, and stressing the need to maintain the neutrality and safeguard the inviolability of United Nations premises, installations and equipment at all times,

Deploring also the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference and the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property,

Deploring further the killing and injury of Agency staff members by the Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since September 2000, including the 11 Agency personnel killed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014,

Deploring the killing and wounding of refugee children and women sheltering in the Agency schools by the Israeli occupying forces during the military operations of July and August 2014,

Affirming the need for accountability and compensation to victims of violations of international law in accordance with international standards by all sides,

Deeply concerned about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[46] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, including the call upon parties to facilitate the activities of the Agency, to guarantee its protection and to refrain from levying taxes and imposing undue financial burdens,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[47]

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the Agency, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions, instability and crises faced during the past year;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency for the essential role that it has played for more than 65 years since its establishment in providing vital services for the well-being, human development and protection of the Palestine refugees and the amelioration of their plight and for the stability of the region, and affirms the necessity for continuing the work of the Agency and its unimpeded operation and provision of services, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Commends* the Agency for its extraordinary efforts, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies on the ground, to provide emergency humanitarian assistance, including shelter, food and medical aid, to refugees and affected civilians during and since the military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, and recognizes its exemplary capacity to mobilize in emergency situations while continuously carrying out its core human development programmes;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the important support and cooperation provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

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[46] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

6. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

7. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East[48] and the efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

8. *Commends* the Agency for its six-year medium-term strategy for 2016–2021 and the Commissioner-General for his continuing efforts to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;[49]

9. *Also commends* the Agency for sustaining its reform efforts, despite difficult operational circumstances, and recognizes its implementation of maximum efficiency procedures to reduce operational and administrative costs and to maximize the use of resources;

10. *Takes note* of the update to the special report of 3 August 2015 of the Commissioner-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV) and conveyed by the Secretary-General on 15 September 2016 to the President of the General Assembly, regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency, and urges all States and international organizations to actively engage in efforts to address the conclusions and recommendations therein;

11. *Also takes note* of the letter dated 19 September 2016 from the President of the General Assembly appealing for active and collective engagement in efforts to urgently address the Agency's fragile state, including through action in support of the recommendations contained in the update to the special report;

12. *Commends* the Agency for its far-reaching measures to address its recurrent financial crisis, and encourages the Agency to continue its efforts to reduce the shortfalls in its programme budget in order to safeguard the delivery of core programmes;

13. *Calls upon* all donors and relevant stakeholders to support the Agency, with a view to ensuring a sustainable and stable financial situation for the Agency in order to safeguard core programmes, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the management capacity of the Agency,[50] and urges all Member States to carefully consider the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, including the continued provision of financial resources from the regular budget of the United Nations, in the light of the recurrent funding shortfalls faced by the Agency;

15. *Endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as is practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continuing assistance as a result of recent crises in the Agency's fields of operation;

16. *Encourages* the Agency to provide increased assistance, in accordance with its mandate, to affected Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as to those who have fled to neighbouring countries, as detailed in the Syrian regional crisis response plans, and calls upon donors to urgently ensure sustained support to the Agency in this regard in the light of the continuing grave deterioration of the situation and the growing needs of the refugees;

17. *Welcomes* the progress made thus far by the Agency in rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and calls for donor funding to enable the expeditious completion of its reconstruction, for the continued provision of relief assistance to those displaced following its destruction in 2007 and for the alleviation of their ongoing suffering through the provision of the necessary support and financial assistance until the reconstruction of the camp is complete;

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[48] A/71/350.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 13A* (A/70/13/Add.1).

[50] A/65/705.

18. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to make progress in addressing the needs, rights and protection of children, women and persons with disabilities in its operations, including through the provision of necessary psychosocial and humanitarian support, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[51] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[52] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[53]

19. *Recognizes* the acute protection needs of Palestine refugees across the region, and encourages the Agency's efforts to contribute to a coordinated and sustained response in accordance with international law, including the Agency's development of its protection framework and function in all field offices, including for child protection;

20. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of humanitarian and psychosocial support and other initiatives that provide recreational, cultural and educational activities for children in all fields, including in the Gaza Strip, and, recognizing their positive contribution, calls for full support for such initiatives by donor and host countries and encourages the building and strengthening of partnerships to facilitate and enhance the provision of these services;

21. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[41]

22. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[39] in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, at all times;

23. *Takes note* of the investigations into the incidents affecting the Agency's facilities during the conflict in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, and calls for ensuring accountability for all violations of international law;

24. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of the delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

25. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease levying taxes, extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

26. *Reiterates its call upon* Israel to fully lift the restrictions impeding or delaying the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of thousands of damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and for the implementation of suspended and urgently needed civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, noting the alarming figures reflected in the United Nations country team report of 26 August 2016, entitled "Gaza: two years after";

27. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

28. *Notes with appreciation* the positive contribution of the Agency's microfinance and job creation programmes, encourages efforts to enhance the sustainability and benefits of microfinance services to a greater number of Palestine refugees, especially in view of the high unemployment rates affecting them, and youth in particular, welcomes the Agency's efforts to streamline costs and increase microfinance services through internal reform efforts, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

29. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment their contributions to the programme budget of the Agency, to increase their special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

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[51] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[52] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[53] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

30. *Urges* all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation by providing or increasing their contributions to the Agency in order to address the serious financial constraints and underfunding affecting its programme budget, noting that financial needs have been exacerbated by conflicts and instability in the recent period and the deteriorating humanitarian situation on the ground;

31. *Calls*, in this regard, for the full and timely funding by donors of the Agency's emergency, recovery and reconstruction programmes as set out in its emergency appeals and response plans;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate broad consultations with Member States, notably host countries, members of the Advisory Commission and other donors, as well as with international financial institutions, to explore all potential ways and means, including through voluntary and assessed contributions, to ensure that the Agency's funding is sufficient, predictable and sustained for the duration of its mandate, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the conclusions of those consultations and recommendations to the General Assembly by March 2017 for its consideration, without prejudice to the advice of relevant committees.

RESOLUTION 71/94

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/493, para. 18),[54] by a recorded vote of 165 to 7, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, South Sudan, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Paraguay, Togo

71/94. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 70/86 of 9 December 2015,[55] as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016,[56]

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[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[55] A/71/343.

[56] A/71/335.

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[57] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[58] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission, and stressing the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[59] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status peace negotiations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/95

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/494, para. 20),[60] by a recorded vote of 91 to 11, with 73 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal,

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[57] Resolution 217 A (III).

[58] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[59] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[60] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, South Sudan, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu

71/95. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[61] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[62] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[63]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 70/87 of 9 December 2015, and the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolutions S-12/1 of 16 October 2009,[64] S-21/1 of 23 July 2014[65] and 29/25 of 3 July 2015,[66]

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Taking into account the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[67] and recalling in this regard its resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[68] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, and welcoming initiatives by States parties, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 of the Convention and aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Taking note of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[69]

Taking note also of Human Rights Council resolution 31/36 of 24 March 2016,[70]

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

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[61] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[62] Resolution 217 A (III).

[63] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[64] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/64/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[65] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. VI.

[66] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. II.

[67] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[68] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[69] A/HRC/22/63.

[70] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Noting with deep regret the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution for the question of Palestine,

Recognizing that the occupation and ensuing persistent and systematic violations of international law by Israel, including international humanitarian and human rights law, are considered to be the main sources of other Israeli violations and discriminatory policies against the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned about the continuing detrimental impact of ongoing unlawful Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in the death and injury of civilians and the widespread destruction of property and vital infrastructure, including during the Israeli military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, as well as ongoing settlement activities and construction of the wall, the internal forced displacement of civilians, the imposition of collective punishment measures, particularly against the civilian population in the Gaza Strip, where continuing severe restrictions on movement amount to a blockade, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians,

Expressing grave concern about tensions, instability and violence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, due to the illegal policies and practices of Israel, the occupying Power, including, in particular, provocations and incitements regarding the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif,

Gravely concerned about all acts of violence, intimidation and provocation by Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians and properties, including homes, mosques, churches and agricultural lands,

Gravely concerned also by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[71] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[72] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties to the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Deploring the killing and injury of thousands of civilians, including women and children, during the military operations in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014,

Taking note of the report of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[73] and stressing the imperative of ensuring accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[74] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[75]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[76] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

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[71] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[72] A/HRC/12/48.

[73] A/HRC/29/52.

[74] A/71/352.

[75] A/71/321, A/71/322, A/71/315, A/71/355 and A/71/364.

[76] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Stressing the urgency of bringing a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and thus an end to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people, and of allowing for the realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination and their independent State,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[77]

Recalling its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[78]

Noting the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its impartiality and efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly in spite of the obstruction of its mandate;

2. *Reiterates* its demand that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate, in accordance with its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations, with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate, and deplores the continued lack of cooperation in this regard;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the report of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;[74]

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of unlawful Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns and calls for the immediate cessation of all illegal Israeli settlement activities and the construction of the wall, the lifting of the blockade of the Gaza Strip, as well as a complete cessation of the excessive and indiscriminate use of force and military operations against the civilian population, settler violence, the destruction and confiscation of properties, including home demolitions as a measure of reprisal, the forced displacement of civilians, all measures of collective punishment, and the detention and imprisonment of thousands of civilians;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[61] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories, including prisoners and detainees, are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment and status of the thousands of prisoners and detainees, including children and women, in Israeli prisons and detention centres in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and expresses grave concern about harsh conditions and ill-treatment of prisoners and recent hunger strikes, stressing the need for respect for all applicable rules of international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention,[61] the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)[79] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[80]

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[77] A/66/371-S/2011/592.

[78] A/67/738.

[79] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[80] Resolution 65/229, annex.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To utilize his good offices to facilitate and support the Special Committee in carrying out its mandate;

(*c*) To continue to make available such staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*d*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*e*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*f*) To report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 71/96

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/494, para. 20),[81] by a recorded vote of 168 to 6, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo

71/96. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 70/88 of 9 December 2015,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

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[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Recalling the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[82] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[83] to the four Geneva Conventions,[84]

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[85] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[86]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[87] and also recalling General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the Fourth Geneva Convention[82] is applicable in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and that Israel is in breach of several of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, held on 15 July 1999, as well as the declarations adopted by the reconvened Conference on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014,[88] and the urgent need for the parties to follow up the implementation of those declarations,

Welcoming and encouraging the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention, as well as the continuing efforts of the depositary State of the Geneva Conventions in this regard,

Noting the accession by Palestine on 1 April 2014 to the Geneva Conventions and Additional Protocol I,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[82] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions[84] and as mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 9 July 2004,[87] to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Notes* the reconvening by Switzerland, the depositary State, of the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 17 December 2014, and calls for efforts to uphold the obligations reaffirmed in the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and 17 December 2014;[88]

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[82] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[83] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[84] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[85] A/70/406 and Corr.1.

[86] A/70/133, A/70/312, A/70/341, A/70/351 and A/70/421.

[87] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[88] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

5. *Welcomes* initiatives by States parties, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention;

6. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including at its tenth emergency special session and including resolution ES-10/15, with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/97

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/494, para. 20),[89] by a recorded vote of 165 to 6, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo

71/97. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 70/89 of 9 December 2015, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994,

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[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[90] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Affirming that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention[90] and relevant provisions of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[91] to the four Geneva Conventions,[92]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[93] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[94]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[95]

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[96]

Recalling also the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[97] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling further the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[98] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Recalling the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[99] and emphasizing specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called natural growth, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001, and the need for Israel to uphold its obligations and commitments in this regard,

Recalling also its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Noting the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the forced transfer of Palestinian civilians, including Bedouin families, the exploitation of natural resources, the fragmentation of territory and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population and the civilian population in the occupied Syrian Golan that are contrary to international law,

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[90] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[91] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[92] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[93] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[94] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 120.

[95] A/HRC/31/73; see also A/71/554.

[96] A/HRC/22/63.

[97] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[98] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[99] S/2003/529, annex.

Bearing in mind the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the ongoing regional and international efforts to resume and advance the peace process, on the prospects for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in accordance with the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and on the viability and credibility of that solution,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel, the occupying Power, of settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and condemning those activities as violations of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the agreements reached between the parties and obligations under the Quartet road map and as actions in defiance of the calls by the international community to cease all settlement activities,

Condemning settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons, the forced transfer of civilians and the de facto annexation of land,

Deploring in particular Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, the revocation of Palestinian residency rights in the city, and ongoing settlement activities in the Jordan Valley, all of which further fragment and undermine the contiguity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Taking note of the Quartet report of 1 July 2016,[100] and stressing its recommendations, as well as its recent statements, including of 30 September 2015, 23 October 2015, 12 February 2016 and 23 September 2016, in which the Quartet members concluded that, inter alia, the continuing policy of settlement construction and expansion, designation of land for exclusive Israeli use and denial of Palestinian development, including the recent high rate of demolitions, are steadily eroding the two-State solution,

Deploring the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern, in particular, about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949, which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socioeconomic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining its viability, and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

Deeply concerned that the wall's route has been traced in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Condemning acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, and recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Condemning also all acts of violence, destruction, harassment, provocation and incitement by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, as well as acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[101]

Noting the special meeting of the Security Council convened on 26 September 2008, as well as the meeting of the Council of 18 February 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

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[100] S/2016/595, annex.

[101] A/71/315, A/71/321, A/71/352, A/71/355, A/71/364 and A/71/392.

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[90] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49, and to comply with all of its obligations under international law and cease immediately all actions causing the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in this regard for the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including, inter alia, resolutions 446 (1979), 452 (1979) of 20 July 1979, 465 (1980), 476 (1980) and 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003;

4. *Calls for* the consideration of measures of accountability, in accordance with international law, in the case of continued non-compliance, stressing that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone for peace and security in the region;

5. *Stresses* that a complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities is essential for salvaging the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and calls for affirmative steps to be taken immediately to reverse the negative trends on the ground that are imperilling the viability of the two-State solution;

6. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;[93]

7. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of all acts of violence, destruction, harassment and provocation by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including historic and religious sites and including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and their agricultural lands;

8. *Calls for* accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and stresses in this regard the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including the confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

9. *Stresses* the responsibility of Israel, the occupying Power, to investigate all acts of settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their properties and to ensure accountability for these acts;

10. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies that ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities;

11. *Recalls*, in this regard, the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[97] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and welcomes in this regard initiatives by States parties, both individually and collectively, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention;

12. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies to take all necessary measures and actions within their mandates to ensure full respect for and compliance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/4 of 16 June 2011,[102] concerning the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights[103] and other relevant international laws and standards, and to ensure the implementation of the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework, which provides a global standard for upholding human rights in relation to business activities that are connected with Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[102] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[103] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/98

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/494, para. 20),[104] by a recorded vote of 162 to 7, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Malawi, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo, Vanuatu

71/98. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[105]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[106] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[106] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[107] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions, including resolution 70/90 of 9 December 2015 as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[108] and the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Special Committee,[109]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[110] as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Human Rights Council,

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[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[105] Resolution 217 A (III).

[106] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[107] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[108] A/71/352.

[109] A/71/315.

[110] A/HRC/28/78 and A/HRC/31/73; see also A/71/554.

Taking note also of the recent report by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[111]

Deeply regretting the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice,[112] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Taking note of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Noting the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[113] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[113] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[114] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[115]

Stressing also the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

Gravely concerned by the tensions and violence in the recent period throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and including with regard to the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and deploring the loss of innocent civilian life,

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[111] A/71/86-E/2016/13.

[112] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[113] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[114] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[115] S/2003/529, annex.

Recognizing that security measures alone cannot remedy the escalating tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as for the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

Expressing grave concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force and military operations causing death and injury to Palestinian civilians, including children, women and non-violent, peaceful demonstrators; the arbitrary imprisonment and detention of Palestinians, some of whom have been imprisoned for decades; the use of collective punishment; the closure of areas; the confiscation of land; the establishment and expansion of settlements; the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949; the destruction of property and infrastructure; the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities; and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned by the ongoing demolition of Palestinian homes, as well as of structures provided as humanitarian aid, by Israel, the occupying Power, in particular in Occupied East Jerusalem, including if carried out as an act of collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, which has escalated at unprecedented rates, and by the revocation of residence permits and eviction of Palestinian residents of the City,

Deploring the conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and the elderly, the widespread destruction of thousands of homes and civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites, and United Nations schools and facilities, the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in this regard,

Gravely concerned about the disastrous humanitarian situation and the critical socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and deepen poverty and despair among the Palestinian civilian population, and from the continuing and vastly negative repercussions of the military operations between December 2008 and January 2009, in November 2012 and in July and August 2014, as well as about the firing of rockets into Israel,

Recalling the statement by the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,[116]

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Stressing also that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides, and regretting the lack of progress made in this regard,

Gravely concerned by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the military operations in the Gaza Strip between December 2008 and January 2009, including the findings in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[117] and in the report of the United Nations Fact-finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict,[118] and the findings of the United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry into certain incidents that occurred in the Gaza Strip between 8 July and

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[116] S/PRST/2014/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

[117] See A/63/855-S/2009/250.

[118] A/HRC/12/48.

26 August 2014[119] and of the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[120] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties of the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Stressing the need for protection of human rights defenders engaged in the promotion of human rights issues in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, to allow them to carry out their work freely and without fear of attacks and harassment,

Expressing deep concern about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of widespread destruction and the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation and on the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population,

Taking note, in this regard, of the United Nations country team report of 26 August 2016, entitled "Gaza: two years after", and the alarming figures therein,

Expressing deep concern about the Israeli policy of closures and the imposition of severe restrictions, including through hundreds of obstacles to movement, checkpoints and a permit regime, all of which obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian goods, and the follow-up and access to donor-funded projects of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and impair the Territory's contiguity, consequently violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and negatively impacting their socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, which remains dire in the Gaza Strip, and the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, while taking note of developments with regard to the situation of access there and the resumption of some trade from Gaza to the West Bank for the first time since 2007, and calling for the full lifting of restrictions,

Expressing grave concern that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including, inter alia, unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, the extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, lack of proper medical care and widespread medical neglect, including for prisoners who are ill, with the risk of fatal consequences, and denial of family visits, that impair their well-being, and expressing grave concern also about the ill-treatment and harassment and all reports of torture of any Palestinian prisoners,

Expressing deep concern about the recent hunger strikes by numerous Palestinian prisoners in protest of the harsh conditions of their imprisonment and detention by the occupying Power, while taking note of the agreement reached in May 2012 on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation,

Recalling the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)[121] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[122] and calling for respect for those Rules,

Recalling also the prohibition under international humanitarian law of the deportation of civilians from occupied territories,

Deploring the practice of withholding the bodies of those killed, and calling for the release of the bodies that have not yet been returned to their relatives, in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law, in order to ensure dignified closure in accordance with their religious beliefs and traditions,

Stressing the need for the prevention of all acts of violence, harassment, provocation and incitement by extremist Israeli settlers and groups of armed settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including homes, agricultural lands and historic and religious sites, including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and deploring the violation of the human rights of Palestinians in this regard, including acts of violence leading to death and injury among civilians,

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[119] See S/2015/286, annex.

[120] A/HRC/29/52.

[121] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[122] Resolution 65/229, annex.

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties to implement the agreements reached, and in this regard recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

Noting the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, and noting also the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence, and expressing the hope that such progress will be extended to all major population centres,

Urging the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and to take every possible step to defuse tensions and promote conditions conducive to the credibility and success of the peace negotiations,

Emphasizing the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[113] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians, the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities, the destruction and confiscation of civilian property, including home demolitions, including if carried out as collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, and any obstruction of humanitarian assistance, and that it fully respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard, including in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Also demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[113] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention;

4. *Calls for* urgent measures to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994;

5. *Also calls for* full cooperation by Israel with the relevant special rapporteurs and other relevant mechanisms and inquiries of the Human Rights Council, including the facilitation of entry to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, for monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation therein according to their respective mandates;

6. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the wall and any other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, all of which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact the human rights of the Palestinian people, and the prospects for achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

7. *Calls for* urgent attention to the plight and the rights, in accordance with international law, of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails, including those on hunger strike, calls for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees, and also calls for respect for the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)[121] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[122]

8. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, particularly in the Gaza Strip, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among thousands of children and women, massive damage and destruction to homes, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, vital infrastructure, including water, sanitation and electricity networks, religious sites and public institutions, including hospitals and schools, and United Nations facilities, and agricultural lands, and large-scale internal displacement of civilians;

9. *Expresses grave concern* at the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas resulting in loss of life and injury;

10. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

11. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice[112] and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparations for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socioeconomic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

12. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

13. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and in this regard to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, in order to allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods and for the acceleration of long overdue and massive reconstruction needs and economic recovery in the Gaza Strip, while noting the recent tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in this regard;

14. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

15. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and welcomes in this regard the formation of the Palestinian national consensus government under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, consistent with the Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles;

16. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination, as a matter of urgency, in the light of the onset of the fiftieth year of the Israeli occupation and the continued denial and violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/99

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/494, para. 20),[123] by a recorded vote of 163 to 1, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati,

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[123] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Panama, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, United States of America, Vanuatu

71/99. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[124]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 70/91 of 9 December 2015,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 70/91,[125]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[126] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

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[124] A/71/352.

[125] A/71/392.

[126] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[126] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/100

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/496, para. 8)[127]

71/100. Comprehensive review of special political missions

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 67/123 of 18 December 2012, 68/85 of 11 December 2013, 69/95 of 5 December 2014 and 70/92 of 9 December 2015 on the comprehensive review of special political missions,

Reaffirming its commitment to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

Recalling the primary role of the United Nations and the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, and recalling also in this context the contribution of regional and subregional arrangements and the important role they can play, as appropriate,

Acknowledging the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of substantively identical resolutions 70/262 and 2282 (2016) of 27 April 2016, based on the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture,[128] which enhance the focus on sustaining peace as a goal and a process, including through conflict-prevention efforts across the Organization, and recognizing, in this regard, the important role played by special political missions in this area, where mandated,

Encouraging enhanced exchanges of information, in an appropriate manner, among the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat, making use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission, when relevant, on overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions,

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and Uruguay.

[128] See A/69/968-S/2015/490.

Reaffirming the principles of impartiality, consent of the parties, national ownership and national responsibility, and stressing the significance of the views of and dialogue with countries hosting special political missions,

Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,[129] which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

Recognizing, in this regard, the importance of adequately resourcing the peacebuilding components of relevant special political missions, including during mission transitions and drawdown, to support the stability and continuity of peacebuilding activities,

Stressing the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the pacific settlement of disputes, including mediation, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acknowledging the significant increase in the number and complexity of special political missions and the challenges faced by them,

Recognizing the important role of the special political mission as a flexible tool for the maintenance of international peace and security, including through contributing to a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

Recognizing also the need for system-wide coherence between special political missions and the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of close cooperation between special political missions, peacekeeping operations and United Nations country teams for maintaining sustainable peace, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Recognizing further the need for special political missions to operate under clear, credible and achievable mandates, including through the articulation of their goals and purposes, and the need to review their progress as stipulated in their respective mandates,

Recognizing the importance of efforts towards improving broad geographical representation, gender balance and expertise in the composition of all special political missions, and acknowledging the necessity of reducing the overall environmental footprint of relevant special political missions,

Reaffirming the important role of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and recognizing the importance of the equal and effective participation and the full involvement of women at all levels, at all stages and in all aspects of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[130] and the report of the High-level Independent Panel,[131] on "United Nations peace operations", as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the results of the global study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security,[132] which formed the basis for its subsequent resolutions acknowledging the emphasis on the primacy of political solutions to conflicts,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 70/92;[133]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular, inclusive and interactive dialogue on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, and requests the Secretariat to reach out to Member States prior to the holding of such dialogue to ensure wide and meaningful participation;

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[129] A/66/340 and A/66/7/Add.21.

[130] A/70/357-S/2015/682.

[131] See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

[132] S/2015/716.

[133] A/71/330.

3. *Respects* the purview of the mandate of special political missions, as stipulated in the respective relevant resolutions, recognizes the specificity of each mandate of such missions, and emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in discussing the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of strong coordination, coherence and cooperation of the Security Council and the General Assembly with the Peacebuilding Commission, and in this regard notes the intention of the Security Council to regularly request, deliberate and draw upon the specific, strategic and targeted advice of the Peacebuilding Commission, including to assist with the longer-term perspective required for sustaining peace being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates, as stated in General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016);

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a timely report on the implementation of the present resolution regarding the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including efforts towards improving expertise and effectiveness, transparency, accountability, geographical representation, gender perspective and women's equal participation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include relevant detailed information on these matters in the report;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of special political missions" and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.

RESOLUTIONS 71/101 A and B

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/497, para. 14)[134]

71/101. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[135]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[136]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

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[134] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

[135] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/71/21).

[136] A/71/227.

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by developing countries to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing that the Committee on Information is its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Reaffirming its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, by which the General Assembly established the Department of Public Information, with a view to promoting to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world, and all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly related to the activities of the Department,

Emphasizing that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely, relevant and multilingual information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency, *Recalling* its resolutions 70/93 A and B of 9 December 2015, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Public Information and to maximize the use of its resources,

Expressing its concern that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the information and communications technologies that are currently available, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of and access to information and communications technologies in order to create a more just, equitable, accessible and effective environment in this regard,

Recognizing that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and at the same time emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Recalling its resolution 69/324 of 11 September 2015 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, including in coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, as well as the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department,

I

Introduction

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in relevant resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in this context;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

4. *Also stresses* that Member States should abstain from using information and communications technologies in contravention of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

6. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/17 of 18 November 2014, and recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[137] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[138] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[139] to pay particular attention to peace and security, sustainable development and human rights and to major issues such as the eradication of poverty, including the global food crisis, conflict prevention, epidemics, including HIV/AIDS, the Ebola outbreak, disarmament, including nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and the needs of the African continent;

7. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to pay particular attention to the outcomes of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

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[137] Resolution 55/2.

[138] Resolution 60/1.

[139] Resolution 70/1.

the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, and to the progress in implementing those outcomes;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

8. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information;[140]

9. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation and to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

12. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education and communication, bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, urges the Department to encourage the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session on progress achieved in this regard;

14. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[141] to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, including the linguistic dimension, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website, the United Nations News Service and United Nations social media accounts, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

16. *Underlines* the critical need to address violations of the relevant international rules and regulations that govern the area of broadcasting, including television, radio and satellite broadcasting, in the most appropriate manner;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in all six official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner, and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities,

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[140] A/AC.198/2016/2-4.

[141] ST/SGB/2016/6.

including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in order to avoid duplication in the issuance of United Nations publications;

18. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to consult on opportunities for merging their publishing activities and to develop new collaborative arrangements to enhance multilingualism in other outputs in a cost-neutral manner, bearing in mind the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session;

19. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

20. *Reiterates its growing concern* that the issuance of daily press releases has not been expanded to all official languages, as requested in previous resolutions and in full respect of the principle of parity of all six official languages, recalls the relevant report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information,[142] reiterates its request that the Department, as a matter of priority, design a strategy to deliver daily press releases in all six official languages through creative schemes, in a cost-neutral manner and in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, at the latest by the thirty-ninth session of the Committee on Information, and also reiterates its request that the Department report thereon to the Committee, at that session;

Multilingualism and public information

21. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;

22. *Underlines* the responsibility of the Secretariat in the mainstreaming of multilingualism into all of its communication and information activities, within existing resources on an equitable basis, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work with the Coordinator for Multilingualism on best practices throughout the Secretariat to fulfil this responsibility, and requests the Secretary-General to report on such best practices and their implementation in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information;

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of all divisions and offices of the Department of Public Information with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department has the necessary capacity in all the official languages to undertake all of its activities, and requests that this aspect be included in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

24. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all of its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all six official languages, information materials, global promotional campaigns and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations websites and are accessible to Member States without delay, and further stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 69/324;

25. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue its ongoing efforts to incorporate the working method of having thematic focal points, currently applied by the language units of the United Nations websites, as a best practice of multilingualism in order to improve the quality of the content of the websites;

26. *Also encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to use other languages in addition to the official languages, when appropriate, according to the target audience, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

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[142] A/AC.198/2016/3.

Bridging the digital divide

27. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society[143] and of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide, including by commemorating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on 17 May;

Network of United Nations information centres

28. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

29. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages information centres to continue their important multilingual activities in the interactive and proactive aspects of their work and to develop web pages in local languages, encourages the Department of Public Information to provide the necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

30. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

31. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

32. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

33. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level and in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work;

34. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

35. *Also stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of information centres to those Member States;

36. *Further stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to

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[143] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

include in his upcoming report comprehensive information on the functioning of the United Nations information centres, including the outcome of the review of the effective and efficient allocation of staff and financial resources to United Nations information centres and the possible measures to improve the operation of the centres in developing countries;

37. *Welcomes* the support of some Member States, including developing countries, in offering, inter alia, rent-free premises for the United Nations information centres because of lack of funding, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

38. *Notes* the concern of many Member States regarding the measures taken by the Secretariat in relation to the information centres in Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, expresses the hope that these measures will not have an adverse impact on the ability of the centres to act as bridges between the United Nations and local audiences, and therefore requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of these measures and to explore ways to strengthen the United Nations information centres in Cairo, Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, keeping in mind the need to do so within existing resources, and encourages the Secretary-General to explore the strengthening of other centres, especially in Africa, in cooperation with the Member States concerned and in a cost-neutral manner;

39. *Recalls* its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in Luanda as a contribution towards addressing the needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of Angola, to take the measures necessary for the prompt establishment of the information centre and to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session on the operationalization of the centre;

40. *Takes note with appreciation* of the offer made by the Government of the Republic of Korea to host a United Nations information centre and, noting the report by the Secretary-General to the Committee on Information on the feasibility of the acceptance of such an offer in a cost-effective manner, requests the Department of Public Information to continue its consultation with the Government of the Republic of Korea in this regard;

III

Strategic communications services

41. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates;

Promotional campaigns

42. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness on, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, refugees and migrants, culture and development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including the rights of women and children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, communicable and non-communicable diseases, the needs of the African continent, the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[144] the special needs of the least developed countries, the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide;

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[144] A/57/304, annex.

43. *Requests* the Secretariat, especially the Department of Public Information, to contribute to the observance of International Mother Language Day, on 21 February, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Day of Nowruz, on 21 March, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, on 25 March, in accordance with its resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, World Press Freedom Day, on 3 May, in accordance with its decision 48/432 of 20 December 1993, the Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War, on 8 and 9 May, in accordance with its resolution 59/26 of 22 November 2004, the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, on 19 June, in accordance with its resolution 69/293 of 19 June 2015, Nelson Mandela International Day, on 18 July, in accordance with its resolution 64/13 of 10 November 2009, the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, on 26 September, in accordance with its resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013, the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, on 29 November, in accordance with its resolutions 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and 34/65 D of 12 December 1979, the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime, on 9 December, in accordance with its resolution 69/323 of 11 September 2015, and Human Rights Day, on 10 December, in accordance with its resolution 423 (V) of 4 December 1950, and to play a role in raising awareness and promoting these events in a cost-neutral manner, where appropriate;

44. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise broad awareness and to engage in a comprehensive and multilingual promotional campaign and coverage, as appropriate, of all high-level meetings mandated by the General Assembly, including the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016;

45. *Recognizes* the communication efforts led by the Department of Public Information in promoting the review conferences of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and the preparatory processes, as well as before, during and after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular, the production of various multimedia materials, including videos, images and graphics, to promote the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and the issues before it in the six official languages of the Organization, and in this regard encourages the Department to continue this practice in promoting high-level meetings, including through the use of traditional and new media such as social media, as appropriate;

46. *Also recognizes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information in communicating about and promoting the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015, as well as the signing ceremony of the Paris agreement held in New York on 22 April 2016, and in this regard encourages the Department to engage in a comprehensive promotional campaign in preparation for the next Conference of the Parties, to be held in Marrakech;

47. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and disseminate information, in a cost-neutral manner, on the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010;

48. *Recalls* its resolutions 68/237 of 23 December 2013 and 69/16 of 18 November 2014 on the International Decade for People of African Descent, and requests the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and disseminate information on the International Decade, in accordance with the programme for the implementation of the International Decade adopted by the General Assembly, in a cost-neutral manner;

49. *Underlines* the importance of the Department of Public Information integrating multilingualism in the planning and implementation of promotional campaigns, including the design of logotypes and isologotypes in different languages, where appropriate, as well as the use of hashtags for social media campaigns in more than one language, taking into account the needs of the target audiences;

50. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to develop partnerships with the private sector in a cost-neutral manner and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session, and in this regard notes the partnership with airlines that provide to their customers in-flight programmes featuring United Nations activities;

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations, special political missions and peacebuilding

51. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the active involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage and in all stages of future peacekeeping operations and special political missions through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Political Affairs;

52. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Political Affairs to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, far-reaching successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, and special political missions, and continues to call upon the four Departments to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping and special political missions;

53. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and special political missions as well as its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Political Affairs, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations and special political missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

54. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to support the peacekeeping missions in further developing and maintaining their websites;

55. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Field Support and the Department of Political Affairs to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving United Nations staff and related personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, and also to inform the public of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel;[145]

56. *Notes* the importance of communication activities and dissemination of information relating to peacebuilding efforts, in particular, meetings and activities of the Peacebuilding Commission, country-specific configurations, the Peacebuilding Support Office of the Secretariat and the Peacebuilding Fund, and requests the Department of Public Information to cooperate with these entities in that regard, with a view to widening outreach of their important work and encouraging national ownership;

Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations

57. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, and requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns on this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations,

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[145] Resolution 62/214, annex.

and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations, promoting the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/109 of 10 December 2015, and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, and requests a briefing by the Secretariat on the measures taken to disseminate information pertaining to the dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, before the next session of the Committee on Information;

58. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Public Information, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,[146] and in this regard reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session the report requested by the Assembly in its resolution 60/4 of 20 October 2005;

59. *Recalls* its resolution 64/14 of 10 November 2009, in which it acknowledged the achievements of the Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts of the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the discussion, at the sixth Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, on 29 and 30 August 2014, on strategic and practical measures that generate and sustain common values and a shared sense of responsibility among all stakeholders, and the continuing support of the Department of Public Information for the work of the Alliance of Civilizations, including its ongoing projects;

IV

News services

60. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all mass media, including print, radio, television and the Internet, including social media platforms, to the media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all breaking news stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

61. *Recognizes* the important role of television and video services provided by the Department of Public Information, and notes the recent efforts in making available online broadcast-quality video that can be streamed or downloaded by smaller broadcast outlets that do not have access to satellite feeds;

Traditional means of communication

62. *Welcomes* the sustained efforts of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance the timeliness, presentation and thematic focus of its multilingual programmes on United Nations activities and to ensure the widest possible dissemination of its programming to media outlets using the most suitable platforms and formats, pre-recorded or live, requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations Radio productions, reiterates the important role of the 15-minute daily programmes created pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, and requests the Department to continue producing and disseminating the programmes, in accordance with client needs;

63. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese and Kiswahili as well as other languages where possible, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information detailed information about such partnerships with broadcasting stations as well as statistics about their multiplying impacts on potential audiences;

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[146] Resolution 56/6, sect. B.

64. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to build partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the News and Media Division of the Department to continue to take full advantage of modern technologies and equipment;

65. *Welcomes* the completion of an inventory of 67 years of United Nations audiovisual history, and, recognizing the importance of the audiovisual archives of the United Nations, stresses the urgency of digitization in order to prevent further deterioration of these unique historical archives and encourages the Department of Public Information to prioritize the development of collaborative arrangements for the digitization of these archives while preserving their multilingual character in a cost-neutral manner and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session;

66. *Notes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information and other stakeholders to plan, procure, implement, test and deploy a media assets management system solution for file-based production and for the management of the United Nations multimedia digital archives, calls upon the Department to continue to explore alternative and feasible solutions for the digitization, preservation, quality assurance and technical processing of the audiovisual archive materials based on international standards and best practices, and encourages the Department to seek the support of public and private institutions for its work in digitizing, storing and managing these multilingual archives and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session;

67. *Also notes*, in this regard, the proposed strategy for the digitization of the United Nations audiovisual archive materials for long-term preservation, access and sustainable management,[147] and requests the Department of Public Information to submit for consideration by the relevant bodies both a detailed proposal for the mass digitization of the audiovisual collections, within existing resources, and plans to solicit voluntary contributions to fund the digitization and storage of the audiovisual archives;

United Nations website

68. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for Member States, the general public, the media, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions, and in this regard reiterates the continued need for strengthened efforts by the Department of Public Information to regularly maintain, update and improve it;

69. *Recognizes* the potential of United Nations websites to offer multilingual and multimedia content, integrating written, spoken and visual elements in all of the official languages, and encourages the Department of Public Information to work towards such an objective;

70. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by the Secretariat to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to gain access to and take part in the work of the United Nations in person or online, including through the work of the Accessibility Centre at United Nations Headquarters, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities, and in this regard encourages the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to further cooperate and identify potential synergies;

71. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites and the web page of the Secretary-General in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis;

72. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website in certain official languages has improved at a much slower rate than expected, and in this regard urges the Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to advance actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

73. *Recalls* paragraph 32 of its resolution 69/324, notes with concern the disparity between the English and the non-English languages on the websites maintained by the Secretariat, urges the Secretary-General to lead the

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[147] A/AC.198/2014/3, annex.

efforts of all offices and departments of the Secretariat to take concrete action to address such uneven development, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders, including the Department of Public Information, content-providing offices and departments, in particular the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, to continue their collaboration, within their respective mandates, so as to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites developed and maintained by all Secretariat entities, in full conformity with the principles of multilingualism and in compliance with the relevant resolutions addressing multilingualism and accessibility for persons with disabilities, by making every effort to translate materials currently available only in English and by providing offices and departments with technological solutions that comply with the principle of parity, from within existing resources;

74. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website, the equitable distribution among all official languages of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations website, with full respect for the needs and the specificities of all six official languages;

75. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in official and non-official languages, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with content-providing offices, to extend such cooperative arrangements, in a cost-effective manner, to all the official languages of the United Nations, bearing in mind the necessity of adherence to United Nations standards and guidelines;

76. *Encourages* the continuation of live webcasts of open, formal meetings of the General Assembly and of the Security Council with interpretation services, and requests the Secretariat to make every effort to provide full access to archived videos in all official languages of all past open formal United Nations meetings with interpretation services in strict observance of the principle of full parity of the six official languages of the United Nations;

77. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information, including the United Nations information centres, on a continuous basis in order to widen the outreach of the Department and to continue to improve the United Nations website in a cost-neutral manner;

78. *Recognizes* that some official languages use non-Latin and bidirectional scripts and that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations are based on Latin script, which leads to difficulties in processing non-Latin and bidirectional scripts, and urges the Office of Information and Communications Technology to further collaborate with the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

79. *Underlines* the importance, in the implementation of new communication tools such as social networks, of taking into account the linguistic dimension in order to ensure full parity among the official languages of the Organization, and in that regard stresses the need for United Nations social media campaigns to use hashtags suitable for each language;

80. *Recalls* that, in paragraph 28 of its resolution 69/324, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report on multilingualism a comprehensive review of the United Nations websites, presenting the status of content in non-official languages, as well as identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures to reinforce the broader multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations websites, as appropriate;

81. *Notes* the uneven development of social media among the official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session on the strategy of the Department of Public Information to ensure, by a more balanced use of all six official languages, that social media contribute to raising awareness of and support for the activities of the Organization;

V

Library services

82. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of its 2011 working group on library improvement;

83. *Commends* the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries to align their

activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization, and calls upon the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to work with the other member libraries to devise a new statement of strategy for library services and to replace the former Steering Committee with the Steering Committee for Libraries of the United Nations focused on practical cooperation among the library services;

84. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in both hard copy and electronic formats, accessible to Member States and others, ensuring that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities, including through a multilingual home page, from within existing resources;

85. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

86. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

87. *Notes* the efforts of the iSeek team, through the intranet, to raise awareness among staff members of new initiatives and developments in different departments of the Secretariat, and reiterates its request to the Department of Public Information to work out, as a matter of priority, a strategy for Member States to also benefit from these new developments;

VI

Outreach services

88. *Stresses* that the central objective of the outreach and knowledge services implemented by the Department of Public Information is to promote awareness of the role and work of the United Nations by fostering dialogue with global constituencies, such as academia, civil society, educators, students and youth, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations;

89. *Notes with serious concern* that many outreach and knowledge services are not yet available in all official languages, and in this regard urges the Department of Public Information, as a matter of priority, to mainstream multilingualism into all outreach and knowledge services, bearing in mind the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations and ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages;

90. *Encourages* the United Nations Academic Impact to take effective steps to facilitate exchanges between the United Nations and institutions of higher education and academic, research and scientific communities in all regions to support the common principles and purposes of the United Nations, contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, foster global citizenship and fill knowledge gaps, while recognizing the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its constitution;

91. *Notes* the continued growth of the United Nations Academic Impact, calls upon the Department of Public Information to promote global awareness of the Academic Impact in order to encourage balanced participation among Member States and their continued support for the initiative, within existing resources, and encourages Member States to promote the initiative among their academic institutions, as appropriate, with a view to their joining it, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 70/93 A and B;

92. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information, and requests the Department to continue to reach educators and young people worldwide through a range of multilingual multimedia platforms including, in particular, in the dissemination of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the educational system, including elementary schools;

93. *Commends* the United Nations Academic Impact for its continued engagement with the global community of scholarship in realizing the objectives of the Organization, requests the Secretary-General to continue

to promote this initiative by encouraging eligible institutions of higher education in all regions, especially from developing countries, to enrol and contribute actively to the goals of the United Nations, and in this regard notes with appreciation the cost-neutral partnerships that the Academic Impact has successfully initiated thus far with a view to multiplying membership;

94. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists' Fellowship Programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the Programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

95. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to make the *UN Chronicle* available in paperless editions only, with a view to expanding the service to all six official languages within existing resources, and requests the Department to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session on progress in this matter;

96. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, and to this end encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop partnerships and collaborative educational activities and events with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

97. *Acknowledges* the importance of the *Yearbook of the United Nations* as an authoritative reference work, welcomes the work of the Department of Public Information in expanding the content and the functions of the website of the *Yearbook*, and takes note of the positive assessment of the *Yearbook* in the survey carried out by the Department in order to evaluate its impact as requested by the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session;

98. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that, in view of their income-generating nature, guided tours at United Nations Headquarters are consistently available in all six official languages of the United Nations as well as in non-official languages;

99. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States, and also notes in this regard the increasing involvement of civil society in United Nations activities, including the outreach activities directed at youth representatives and young journalists;

100. *Recalls* its resolution 41/68 D of 3 December 1986, commends the World Federation of United Nations Associations and its more than 100 national United Nations associations for the valuable contributions that they have made during the past 70 years through their global activities in the mobilization of popular support for the United Nations, and calls for continued collaboration between the World Federation and the Department of Public Information in support of their complementary objectives;

101. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the sessions of the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

102. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its global communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

VII

Final remarks

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution, and requests the Department of Public Information to provide a briefing in this regard before the next session of the Committee on Information;

104. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat, during the annual general debate of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to press officers of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to continue to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional passes to press officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

105. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

106. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 71/102

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/498, para. 7),[148] by a recorded vote of 176 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Central African Republic, France, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/102. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 70/94 of 9 December 2015, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

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[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Stressing the importance of the timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[149]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to the economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 71/103

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/499, para. 7),[150] by a recorded vote of 177 to 2, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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[149] A/71/68.

[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

71/103. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to the item,[151]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991, 55/146 of 8 December 2000 and 65/119 of 10 December 2010,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 regarding the sovereignty of peoples over their natural wealth and resources in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and with other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

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[151] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. V.

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in this regard reminds the administering Powers of their responsibility and accountability vis-à-vis any detriment to the interests of the peoples of those Territories, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/104

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/500, para. 7),[152] by a recorded vote of 125 to none, with 55 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

71/104. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General[153] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[154] on the item,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to the item,[155]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/25 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/16 of 20 July 2015,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

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[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[153] A/71/69.

[154] E/2016/49.

[155] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. VI.

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Welcoming also the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective responsibilities, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance that they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/96 of 9 December 2015 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

Expressing concern at the low level of attendance by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations invited in recent years to the regional seminars of the Special Committee,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[153]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in

the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including possible participation at the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[156] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

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[156] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G.

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/105

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/501, para. 7)[157]

71/105. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/97 of 9 December 2015,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[158] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

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[157] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Croatia, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Singapore and Thailand.

[158] A/71/70.

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[158]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/106

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[159]

71/106. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/98 of 9 December 2015,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

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[159] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011, 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012, 2099 (2013) on 25 April 2013, 2152 (2014) on 29 April 2014, 2218 (2015) on 28 April 2015 and 2285 (2016) on 29 April 2016,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Also expressing its satisfaction at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016,[160]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[161]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[161]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015) and 2285 (2016), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015) and 2285 (2016) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

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[160] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. VIII.

[161] A/71/224.

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/107

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[162]

71/107. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Taking note of the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2015 relating to Tokelau,[163]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 70/101 of 9 December 2015,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting with appreciation also the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Recalling the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Cognizant that New Zealand and Tokelau signed, on 21 November 2003, a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and bearing in mind also that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

Recalling the holding of free and fair elections in the Territory in January 2014,

Noting the 2013 constitutional consultations, to be further considered by the Constitution Committee, which were driven by the people of Tokelau and which aimed at developing a model of government structure that is culturally appropriate and sensitive to their current situation, culminating in the approval and ratification of the national symbol of the Territory, along with the constitution, national anthem and national flag,

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[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[163] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. XI.

Bearing in mind the statement made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, that the self-determination process of the Territory could not be addressed in isolation from the threat of climate change and the rise in sea level, and bearing in mind also the intention of Tokelau to further review the National Strategic Plan in order to determine development and other priorities beyond 2015, including consideration of the issue of self-determination and how it would address a possible referendum on self-determination in cooperation with the administering Power,

Recalling the statement made at the seminar by the representative of the Government of New Zealand, as the administering Power, citing the close and cordial cooperation that has existed for nearly 90 years between the Territory and the administering Power, with an emphasis on quality health care and education, telecommunications, renewable energy, support for the fisheries sector and the establishment of transport infrastructure and services, and noting the gifting by New Zealand to Tokelau of a new, purpose-built ferry, aimed at improving the connectivity of Tokelau with the Pacific region and the wider world, which entered into service in March 2016,

1. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono in 2008 that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life and opportunities for the people of Tokelau;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004, and notes that further discussion is planned on the recommendations in the report on the devolution review, compiled in 2012;

3. *Notes with appreciation* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

4. *Recalls* the adoption by Tokelau of its National Strategic Plan for 2010–2015 and that the Joint Commitment for Development between Tokelau and New Zealand 2011–2015 prioritizes four main development pillars, including good governance, infrastructure development, human resources capacity development and sustainable development;

5. *Acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, including with the completion of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project and a new shipping charter service, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization;

6. *Commends* the achievement by Tokelau in 2013 of 60 per cent of the objectives of its National Strategic Plan, including the completion of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project with the support of the administering Power and receipt by the Government of the Renewable Energy Award granted by the New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority;

7. *Acknowledges* the need of Tokelau for continued support from the international community and its desire to become part of the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, the impacts of climate change and the protection of the environment and oceans;

8. *Notes* the intention of Tokelau to further review its National Strategic Plan in order to determine development and other priorities beyond 2015 and to include consideration of the issue of self-determination and how the Territory would address a possible referendum on self-determination in cooperation with the administering Power;

9. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs, and in this regard notes the successful chairmanship by Tokelau in 2014 of the tenth annual ministerial

meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, held in Tokelau on 1 and 2 July 2014, the representation of the Agency by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, and the signing by Tokelau of the Pacific Islands Development Forum Charter on 27 April 2016 so as to become the twelfth member of the Forum;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

12. *Recognizes* the positive actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

13. *Commends* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continuing to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/108

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[164]

71/108. Question of American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of American Samoa,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to American Samoa,[165]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[166] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of American Samoa and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[167] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including American Samoa,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[168] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

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[164] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[165] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[166] A/AC.109/2016/1.

[167] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[168] A/56/61, annex.

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of American Samoa require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Acknowledging the outcome of the referendum held on 4 November 2014, in which the proposal to give the Fono, the Territory's legislature, the authority to override the Governor's veto was rejected, and welcoming the discussion opened in the Territory as to the way forward,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax heavens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of American Samoa in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of American Samoa and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to American Samoa and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of American Samoa in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of American Samoa with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[169] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[170]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

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[169] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[170] See resolution 65/119.

Aware that, under United States law, the Secretary of the Interior takes administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[171]

Recalling the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015 that, while the Territory enjoyed a great deal of self-government, its current legal status was seen as an anachronism that exposed the Territory to situations beyond its control and needed to be remedied,

Recalling also the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2015 Caribbean regional seminar, expressing concern that the Territory continued to get its authority from the President and the Department of the Interior of the administering Power, that the Territory had no representation in the federal Congress and that its Constitution needed to be approved by the Government of the administering Power,

Recalling further the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa at regional seminars inviting the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Acknowledging the participation of a representative of American Samoa at the 2016 Pacific regional seminar,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee, as well as the holding in June 2010 of the Territory's fourth Constitutional Convention,

Taking note of the decisions of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, issued on 5 June and 2 October 2015, affirming the judgment of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, which dismissed a lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment that would have asserted that the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States extended to American Samoa, and taking note also of the pending decision by the Supreme Court of the United States on the petition for a writ of certiorari submitted on 1 February 2016,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government, including at the 2015 Caribbean regional seminar, that certain federal laws have had and continue to have a debilitating impact on the Territory's ability to achieve sustainable economic growth,

Aware that, on 7 October 2015, the United States passed Public Law 114-61, providing an immediate incremental increase of $0.40 per hour in the transitional minimum wage for each industry in American Samoa, with additional increases occurring every three years on 30 September until the minimum wage is equal to that in the United States,

Aware also that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of American Samoa, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of American Samoa to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the

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[171] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress, and also welcomes the establishment in April 2016 of the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations;

5. *Recalls* the indication by the territorial Government that American Samoa should remain on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, under the purview of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, until such time as its people have exercised their right to self-determination;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2015 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of American Samoa and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between American Samoa and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in American Samoa, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[172] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of American Samoa and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[172] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 71/109

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[173]

71/109. Question of Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Anguilla,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Anguilla,[174]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[175] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Anguilla and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[176] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Anguilla,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[177] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Anguilla require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Anguilla in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Anguilla and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering

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[173] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[174] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[175] A/AC.109/2016/2.

[176] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[177] A/56/61, annex.

Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Anguilla and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Anguilla in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Anguilla with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[178] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[179]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Recalling also the statement made by the representative of Anguilla at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the people of the Territory were concerned that they were being denied the full range of decolonization options under a drafting exercise that began in 2011,

Aware of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

Noting the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, the decisions taken in 2008 and 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory and the recent efforts undertaken in that regard, including the establishment, in September 2015, of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Committee to advance constitutional and electoral reform,

Noting also the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

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[178] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[179] See resolution 65/119.

Recalling the general elections which took place in April 2015,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Anguilla to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Anguilla, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Anguilla to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the preparations made for a new constitution, and urges that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Anguilla and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Anguilla and the administering Power;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Anguilla, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

12. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

13. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[180] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the

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[180] Resolution 70/1.

Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

14. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Anguilla and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/110

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[181]

71/110. Question of Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Bermuda,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Bermuda,[182]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[183] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Bermuda and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[184] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Bermuda,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[185] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Bermuda require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

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[181] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[182] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[183] A/AC.109/2016/3.

[184] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[185] A/56/61, annex.

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Bermuda in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Bermuda and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Bermuda and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Bermuda in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Bermuda with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[186] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[187]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of Bermuda at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting the results of successive surveys by local media, according to which a majority of respondents did not wish to sever ties with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administering Power, and a minority was in favour of independence,

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[186] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[187] See resolution 65/119.

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

Noting serious concerns regarding good governance, transparency and accountability in the Territory, including with respect to external election campaign financing originating in a neighbouring country, which led the Premier to resign in May 2014 with a view to maintaining integrity and confidence in the political landscape,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Bermuda, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Bermuda to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

5. *Underlines* the need further to strengthen good governance, transparency and accountability in government for the benefit of the Territory;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of Bermuda in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Bermuda and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Bermuda and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Bermuda, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[188] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Bermuda and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/111

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[189]

71/111. Question of the British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the British Virgin Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to the British Virgin Islands,[190]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[191] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[192] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the British Virgin Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[193] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

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[188] Resolution 70/1.

[189] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[190] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[191] A/AC.109/2016/4.

[192] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[193] A/56/61, annex.

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the British Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the British Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the British Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the British Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the British Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the British Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar, held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[194] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[195]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

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[194] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[195] See resolution 65/119.

Recalling the statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013 that, while the Territory's relationship with the administering Power was stable and not problematic, it could be enhanced,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

Recalling the general elections which took place in June 2015,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the British Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the British Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the British Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

9. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

10. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[196] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all,

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[196] Resolution 70/1.

reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

11. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the British Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/112

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[197]

71/112. Question of the Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Cayman Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to the Cayman Islands,[198]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[199] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[200] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Cayman Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[201] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Cayman Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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[197] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[198] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[199] A/AC.109/2016/5.

[200] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[201] A/56/61, annex.

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Cayman Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Cayman Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the Cayman Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Cayman Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Cayman Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[202] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[203]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Conscious of the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa,

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[202] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[203] See resolution 65/119.

Aware of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Cayman Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands to determine freely their future political status, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2009 Constitution of the Cayman Islands, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including its work on human rights education;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Cayman Islands and the administering Power;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Cayman Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

9. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

10. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[204] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from

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[204] Resolution 70/1.

undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

11. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Cayman Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/113

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[205]

71/113. Question of Guam

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Guam,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Guam,[206]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[207] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Guam and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[208] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Guam,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[209] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Guam require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

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[205] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[206] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[207] A/AC.109/2016/9.

[208] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[209] A/56/61, annex.

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Guam in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Guam and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Guam and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Guam in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Guam with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[210] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[211]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2016 Pacific regional seminar, in which he presented an update on the efforts of Guam towards decolonization, including by securing funding for the public education programme on self-determination, and on the work of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination in reinforcing public awareness ahead of the planned plebiscite on self-determination,

Recalling the concern expressed by the representative of the Governor and the Speaker of the Guam legislature before the Fourth Committee in October 2015 about the reinstatement of a lawsuit challenging the voting restrictions for the Territory's plebiscite on self-determination,

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[210] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[211] See resolution 65/119.

Cognizant of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization to promote in the Territory the holding of a plebiscite on self-determination, to populate the decolonization registry, as required by public law, to enhance the ability to expediently register those who have not yet been registered and to identify and secure territorial and federal resources for a self-determination education programme,

Aware that the Department of the Interior of the United States of America has approved a grant to support the self-determination education campaign, as stated by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2016 Pacific regional seminar,

Aware also that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[212]

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant of the importance of the administering Power continuing to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of the deep concern expressed by civil society and other parties regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Recalling the statement made by the Speaker of the thirty-third Guam legislature before the Fourth Committee at the seventieth session of the General Assembly that the most acute threat to the legitimate exercise of the decolonization of Guam was the incessant militarization of the island by its administering Power, and noting the concern expressed regarding the effect of the escalating United States military activities and installations on Guam,

Recalling also its resolution 57/140 of 11 December 2002, in which it reiterated that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, and called upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980, and conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Guam to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of Guam, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Guam to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial

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[212] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the convening of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination and its ongoing work on a self-determination vote, as well as its public education efforts;

5. *Stresses* that the decolonization process in Guam should be compatible with the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[213]

6. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

7. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

8. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard welcomes the financial assistance granted by the administering Power in support of the decolonization educational campaign, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government;

9. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Guam and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Guam and the administering Power;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Guam, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

12. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

13. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[214] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia,

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[213] Resolution 217 A (III).

[214] Resolution 70/1.

economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

14. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation and the impact of militarization on the environment, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Guam and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/114

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[215]

71/114. Question of Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Montserrat,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Montserrat,[216]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[217] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Montserrat and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[218] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Montserrat,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[219] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Montserrat require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

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[215] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[216] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[217] A/AC.109/2016/10.

[218] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[219] A/56/61, annex.

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Montserrat in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Montserrat and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Montserrat and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Montserrat in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Montserrat with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[220] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[221]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting with concern the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory and which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

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[220] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[221] See resolution 65/119.

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Recalling the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Montserrat, as conveyed by the Premier of Montserrat to the Chair of the Special Committee in their meeting on 11 May 2015,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Montserrat, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Montserrat to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2011 Constitution of Montserrat and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the Territory's participation in the work of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Montserrat and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Montserrat and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Montserrat, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[222] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the

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[222] Resolution 70/1.

Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Montserrat and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/115

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[223]

71/115. Question of Pitcairn

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Pitcairn,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Pitcairn,[224]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[225] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Pitcairn and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[226] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Pitcairn,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[227] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Pitcairn require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

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[223] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[224] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[225] A/AC.109/2016/12.

[226] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[227] A/56/61, annex.

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Pitcairn in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Pitcairn and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Pitcairn and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Pitcairn in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Pitcairn with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[228] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[229]

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Cognizant that the administering Power and the territorial Government have developed a five-year strategic development plan, covering the period from 2012 to 2016, that sets out the views and aspirations of the people of the Territory for the socioeconomic development of the Territory,

Aware of the assessment made in 2013 that the population of the Territory needs to be boosted if the Territory is to have a sustainable future and of the approval by the Pitcairn Island Council of an immigration policy and the repopulation plan, covering the period from 2014 to 2019, designed to promote immigration and repopulation and bring people with the necessary skills and commitment to Pitcairn,

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[228] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[229] See resolution 65/119.

Noting with concern the findings contained in the final report on the survey commissioned by the Pitcairn Island Council to ascertain whether members of the diaspora had any interest in returning to the Territory and the factors conditioning a decision,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of the decolonization of Pitcairn, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Pitcairn to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through the training of local personnel;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn, including as regards demographic matters;

7. *Welcomes* the work carried out on the preparation of the five-year strategic development plan for the island;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Pitcairn and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Pitcairn and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Pitcairn, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[230] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia,

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[230] Resolution 70/1.

economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Pitcairn and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/116

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[231]

71/116. Question of Saint Helena

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Saint Helena,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to Saint Helena,[232]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[233] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Saint Helena and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[234] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Saint Helena,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[235] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Saint Helena require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

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[231] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[232] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[233] A/AC.109/2016/13.

[234] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[235] A/56/61, annex.

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Saint Helena in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Saint Helena and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Saint Helena and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Saint Helena in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Saint Helena with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[236] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[237]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015 that the Territory had no aspiration to independence and had been able to have a formal form of government,

Recalling also the concerns expressed by the representative of Saint Helena about the potential negative impacts of the construction of the airport, including the growing number of expatriate families settling in the Territory and the lack of a specific plan to operate an air route or sea link between Saint Helena and neighbouring islands,

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[236] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[237] See resolution 65/119.

Recalling further the information provided by the representative of Saint Helena that, although human rights provisions are enshrined in the 2009 Constitution of Saint Helena, some international instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[238] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[239] have not yet been extended to the Territory,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Recalling the fact that, in January 2013, following a resolution passed in September 2012 by the Legislative Council to undertake minor adjustments to the 2009 Constitution, a public consultation process was launched,

Aware that a consultative poll was held in March 2013, with the majority opting for no change to the Constitution, and that, for the first time, a general election based on one constituency was held in July 2013,

Cognizant that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment, transport and communications infrastructure,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Saint Helena to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Saint Helena, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Saint Helena to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2009 Constitution of the Territory and the further development of democratic and good governance;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socioeconomic development challenges of the Territory;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Saint Helena and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Saint Helena and the administering Power;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Saint Helena, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

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[238] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[239] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

9. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

10. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[240] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

11. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Saint Helena and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/117

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[241]

71/117. Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to the Turks and Caicos Islands,[242]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[243] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[244] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands,

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[240] Resolution 70/1.

[241] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[242] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[243] A/AC.109/2016/15.

[244] Resolution 1514 (XV).

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[245] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the Turks and Caicos Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[246] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[247]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

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[245] A/56/61, annex.

[246] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[247] See resolution 65/119.

Taking note of the statement made by the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Noting the decision of the administering Power to suspend parts of the Turks and Caicos Islands Constitution Order 2006, the subsequent presentation of a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011 and the introduction of a new constitution for the Territory, as well as the election of a new territorial Government in 2012,

Noting also that the administering Power, after careful consideration, did not accept the recommendations of the 2014 report of the Constitutional Review Committee, which was submitted to and considered by the House of Assembly, on the grounds that the Constitution Order 2011 was key to ensuring that the Turks and Caicos Islands continued to meet internationally recognized standards of good governance, the rule of law and sound financial management,

Recalling that, in March 2014, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community received an update on the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which they will continue to monitor, and that they expressed their support for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory on terms driven by its people,

Noting the 2009 suspension of the Constitution Order 2006, which abolished the democratically elected House of Assembly and the Cabinet, and the subsequent institution of direct rule exercised by the administering Power for a period of three years, and taking note of the provision of a new Constitution Order in 2012, as well as the election held in the Territory in 2012, and of the endorsement by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community of the report of the Community's fact-finding mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2013, which called for, inter alia, a referendum on self-determination and a mechanism for amending the constitution,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Turks and Caicos Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Reiterates its support* for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory and for the work of the Constitutional Review Committee in that regard, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction in 2011 of a new constitution and the holding of elections in November 2012, and sound financial management in the Territory;

5. *Takes note* of the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in support of a democratically elected territorial Government and of the full restoration of democracy in the Territory as decided by its people;

6. *Notes* the continuing debate on constitutional reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

7. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of its people, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

8. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Turks and Caicos Islands and the administering Power;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[248] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/118

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[249]

71/118. Question of the United States Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the United States Virgin Islands,

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[248] Resolution 70/1.

[249] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016, related to the United States Virgin Islands,[250]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[251] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[252] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the United Sates Virgin Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second[253] and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the United States Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as tax havens to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the United States Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the United States Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the United States Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the United States Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

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[250] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. X.

[251] A/AC.109/2016/16.

[252] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[253] A/56/61, annex.

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Managua and hosted by the Government of Nicaragua from 31 May to 2 June 2016 as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee[254] and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[255]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[256]

Aware also of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

Cognizant also that the Fifth Revision Convention, established and convened in 2012, was mandated to ratify and approve the final revised draft constitution,

Aware of the closing of the Hovensa plant, and noting the continuing negative impact on manufacturing and on the employment situation in the Territory,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the United States Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the United States Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to

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[254] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

[255] See resolution 65/119.

[256] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Expresses its concern* regarding the continuing negative impact of the Hovensa plant closure;

8. *Reiterates its call for* the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the United States Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the United States Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

12. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

13. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[257] including the Sustainable Development Goals stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as a tax haven, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

14. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the United States Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[257] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 71/119

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[258]

71/119. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to New Caledonia,[259]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, and stressing principle VI of the annex to resolution 1541 (XV),

Recalling also the provisions of the Nouméa Accord,[260] which, inter alia, underscores the importance of the transfer of powers and skills in a timely manner from the administering Power to the people of New Caledonia,

Reaffirming that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote equitable political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of continued peaceful dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Recalling the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011,[261] following his visit to the Territory in February 2011,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region, including through the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the region,

Recalling the conclusions of the nineteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, under the historic inaugural chairmanship of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, held in Nouméa from 19 to 21 June 2013, including the Leaders Declaration of the Group reaffirming the strong commitment and support, including technical assistance, for the self-determination of New Caledonia, in accordance with the Charter and the Nouméa Accord,

Noting the admission of New Caledonia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

Welcoming the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Melanesian Spearhead Group secretariat on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

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[258] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[259] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. IX.

[260] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

[261] A/HRC/18/35/Add.6, annex.

Mindful that New Caledonia has entered the most seminal phase of the Nouméa Accord process, a period that requires continued close monitoring by the United Nations of the situation in the Territory in order to help the people of New Caledonia to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with the objectives set out in the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[262]

Welcoming the Charter of the Kanak people, common base of the fundamental values and principles of the Kanak civilization, which was proclaimed in April 2014 by the customary authorities, Great Chiefs, Chiefs, Presidents of District Councils and Presidents of the Clan Chiefs Councils as the sole traditional custodians of the Kanak people of New Caledonia,

Welcoming also the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia in March 2014,

Recalling the statement by the Chair of the visiting mission,

Having examined the report of the visiting mission,[263]

Welcoming the cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to New Caledonia and its readiness for and concurrence with the dispatching of the 2014 visiting mission,

Taking note of the statement by the representative of the administering Power,

Acknowledging the successful conduct by New Caledonia of municipal and provincial elections in May 2014,

Taking note of the information presented to the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, and in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015, on the situation in the Territory, including on the issues related to the 2014 elections,

Taking note also of the recommendations adopted by the Pacific regional seminar held in Managua from 31 May to 2 June 2016, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee,[264]

Aware of the challenges encountered in the 2014 provincial electoral process, particularly with regard to the work of the special administrative committees in updating the special electoral roll, the non-existence of the supplementary electoral roll from 1998 and the unavailability of the 1998 general electoral roll prior to 2014, and their potential impact on the referendum on self-determination,

Cognizant of the invitation from the administering Power to the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to dispatch an electoral expert observer mission to New Caledonia in May 2016 to observe the work of the special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, including, in particular, for the self-determination referendum in New Caledonia in 2018, consistent with the Nouméa Accord,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Territory in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

1. *Reaffirms its approval* of the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to New Caledonia;[259]

2. *Reiterates its endorsement* of the report, observations, conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia conducted in 2014;[263]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia for the close cooperation and assistance extended to the visiting mission;

4. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of New Caledonia to determine freely and fairly their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on

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[262] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[263] A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1.

[264] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[262] and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

5. *Notes* the concerns expressed regarding the challenges encountered in the provincial elections process with respect to the persistent varying interpretations of the restricted electorate provisions and the voter registration appeal process, and encourages the administering Power and the people of New Caledonia to address in an amicable and peaceful manner the concerns of all stakeholders under the existing relevant laws in the Territory and in France, while also respecting and upholding the spirit and letter of the Nouméa Accord;[260]

6. *Expresses the view* that adequate measures for conducting the upcoming consultations on access to full sovereignty, including a just, fair, credible and transparent electoral roll, as provided in the Nouméa Accord, are essential for the conduct of a free, fair and genuine act of self-determination consistent with the Charter and United Nations principles and practices;

7. *Welcomes*, in that respect, the continuous dialogue undertaken by the parties in the framework of the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord to establish the parameters for the conduct of a conclusive act of self-determination, including the setting of an electoral roll, as provided in the Accord;

8. *Takes note* of the outcome of the twelfth meeting of the Committee of Signatories, held on 3 October 2014, which, inter alia, stressed the commitment of the administering Power to enable the people of New Caledonia to decide their future status in a fair, credible, democratic and transparent self-determination process consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

9. *Notes with interest* the convening of the extraordinary meeting of the Committee of Signatories, held in Paris on 5 June 2015, regarding the New Caledonia self-determination process, including, in particular, the electoral roll for the referendum and related issues;

10. *Calls upon* France, the administering Power, in the light of the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting mission, to consider developing an education programme to inform the people of New Caledonia about the nature of self-determination so that they may be better prepared to face a future decision on the matter, and requests the Special Committee to provide all available assistance in that regard;

11. *Commends* the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting mission to the Government of France, as the administering Power, and the Government of New Caledonia for appropriate action;

12. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of the people of New Caledonia and within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect in order to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, based on the principle that it is for the people of New Caledonia to choose how to determine their destiny;

13. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 68/87 of 11 December 2013 and 69/97 of 5 December 2014, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed that in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

14. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, particularly the submission on 8 January 2015 on the most recent developments in New Caledonia;

15. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed by the Kanak people regarding their underrepresentation in governmental and social structures, incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

16. *Urges* the administering Power to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of New Caledonia to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the people of New Caledonia;

17. *Commends* the "Cadres for the future" programme, and encourages further enhancement of the training and capacity-building of high-level executives in the public and private sectors in the Territory, particularly in view of the ongoing transfer of powers from the Government of France to New Caledonia, while ensuring that the transfer of powers is undertaken in a manner consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

18. *Recalls* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia,[261] made in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to New Caledonia and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after it exercises its right to self-determination;

20. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the economic and social rebalancing initiatives undertaken by the administering Power, and urges its continuation in all areas and communities of the Territory, especially for the well-being of the Kanak indigenous people;

21. *Encourages* the administering Power, with the cooperation of the Government of New Caledonia, to ensure and enhance safeguards for and guarantees of the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to own, access, use and manage their natural resources, including proprietary rights for their future development;

22. *Recalls* the provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, and notes the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund;

23. *Welcomes* the accession of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste to the Chair of the Melanesian Spearhead Group, the hosting, for the first time in New Caledonia, in June 2013, of the meetings of officials and leaders of the Group, the successful completion of the chairmanship of the Group by the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, in June 2015, and the opening, in February 2013, of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste unit at the headquarters of the Group secretariat in Port Vila;

24. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

25. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

26. *Takes note* of the information shared by participants from New Caledonia at the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014 and in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015, including on measured progress made in the social, economic, political and environmental spheres and more focused efforts, particularly on the rebalancing initiatives and electoral roll concerns, necessary for the long-term shared mutual benefit of all New Caledonians, and urges the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia to devote appropriate attention to addressing these issues;

27. *Welcomes* the peaceful conduct of provincial elections in New Caledonia on 11 May 2014, the preceding municipal elections and the subsequent efforts to form a new Government of New Caledonia, and encourages constructive engagement by all stakeholders in further developing New Caledonia for all, including by respecting and upholding the Nouméa Accord;

28. *Also welcomes* the decision of the administrative Power to invite the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat to conduct a mission in order to observe the work of the special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, and looks forward to examining its recommendations;

29. *Stresses* the importance of the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

30. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

31. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/120

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41)[265]

71/120. Question of French Polynesia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of French Polynesia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to French Polynesia,[266]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with all relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Recalling its resolution 67/265 of 17 May 2013, entitled "Self-determination of French Polynesia", in which it affirmed the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination and independence in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter and its resolution 1514 (XV), recognized that French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter, and declared that an obligation exists under Article 73 *e* of the Charter on the part of the Government of France, as the administering Power of the Territory, to transmit information on French Polynesia,

Taking note of the section related to French Polynesia of the Final Document of the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014,[267]

Expressing concern that 56 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[268] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including French Polynesia,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, on a case-by-case basis and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Recognizing also that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of French Polynesia require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Reaffirming the inalienable rights of the people of French Polynesia to the ownership, control and disposal of their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals,

Conscious of the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of French Polynesia,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, on a case-by-case basis, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territories,

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[265] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[266] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. IX.

[267] See A/68/966-S/2014/573, annex I.

[268] Resolution 1514 (XV).

Recognizing the significant health and environmental impacts of nuclear testing conducted by the administering Power in the Territory over a 30-year period, and recognizing also the concerns in the Territory related to the consequences of those activities for the lives and health of the people, especially children and vulnerable groups, as well as the environment of the region, and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 70/81 of 9 December 2015, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation",

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia,[269] prepared pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 68/93 of 11 December 2013,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Noting the admission of French Polynesia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of French Polynesia to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of French Polynesia of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in French Polynesia, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

4. *Regrets* that the administering Power has not responded to the request to submit information on French Polynesia under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

5. *Reaffirms* that an obligation exists on the part of the administering Power to transmit information under Chapter XI of the Charter, and requests the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General such information on French Polynesia as called for under the Charter;

6. *Urges* the administering Power concerned to ensure the permanent sovereignty of the people of French Polynesia over their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide continuous updates to his report on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia,[269] with further details on the impacts of nuclear testing in the Territory, particularly on the consequences of exposure to atomic radiation;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to intensify its dialogue with French Polynesia in order to facilitate rapid progress towards a fair and effective self-determination process, under which the terms and timelines for an act of self-determination would be agreed;

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[269] A/69/189.

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of French Polynesia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/121

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41),[270] by a recorded vote of 174 to 3, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: France, Togo

71/121. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[271]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 70/103 of 9 December 2015,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options for self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[270] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[271] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23), chap. III.

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and encourages the continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet on what the United Nations can do to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories, published in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, and updated for the United Nations website on decolonization;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all of the media available, including publications, radio, television and the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*f*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/122

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 6 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/502, para. 41),[272] by a recorded vote of 171 to 5, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Côte d'Ivoire, Israel, Morocco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Colombia, France, Palau, Togo

71/122. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2016,[273]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 70/231 of 23 December 2015, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways and means to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

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[272] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[273] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/71/23).

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Managua from 31 May to 2 June 2016,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence, on a case-by-case basis;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[274]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms its support once again* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and to participate formally in its future sessions and seminars;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

7. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend to the General Assembly, as appropriate, the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*d*) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

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[274] Resolution 217 A (III).

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*h*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, inter alia, to facilitate visiting missions of the Committee to the Territories on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

10. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, where applicable, are an effective means of ascertaining the situation of the peoples of the Territories, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories, and therefore requests the Special Committee to undertake at least one visiting mission a year;

11. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[275] updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

12. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

14. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

15. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, President pro tempore of the Special Committee, to meet informally at least once a year with the Chair and the Bureau of the Committee during the intersessional period, in order to explore innovative ways of using his good offices to help to advance the decolonization agenda on a case-by-case basis;

18. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2016,[273] in which the programme of work for 2017 is outlined, in particular the Caribbean regional seminar and a visiting mission to one of the Territories on its agenda, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the resources at the disposal of the Special Committee in order to ensure that the Committee has the funding, facilities and services commensurate with its envisioned yearly programmes, as mandated in relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, especially, in paragraph 8 of its resolution 70/231.

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[275] A/56/61, annex.

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RESOLUTION 71/212

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/460, para. 11)[1]

71/212. Information and communications technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009, 65/141 of 20 December 2010, 66/184 of 22 December 2011, 67/195 of 21 December 2012, 68/198 of 20 December 2013, 69/204 of 19 December 2014 and 70/184 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, 2010/2 of 19 July 2010, 2011/16 of 26 July 2011, 2012/5 of 24 July 2012, 2013/9 of 22 July 2013, 2014/27 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/26 of 22 July 2015, and taking note of Council resolution 2016/22 of 27 July 2016 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[2] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[3] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[4] and endorsed by the Assembly,[5]

Noting the references to information and communications technologies contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and reiterating calls for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society process and the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[6] held in New York on 15 and

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[2] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[3] See resolution 59/220.

[4] See A/60/687.

[5] See resolution 60/252.

[6] Resolution 70/125.

16 December 2015, in which it took stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, addressed potential information and communications technology gaps and identified areas for continued focus,

Reaffirming its common desire and commitment to the World Summit on the Information Society vision as laid out in the Geneva Declaration of Principles,

Recognizing that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies, stressing the need to address prevailing challenges to bridge the digital divides, both between and within countries and between women and men, and to harness information and communications technologies for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides, using a multidimensional approach that includes speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[7]

Noting the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, jointly organized annually by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting also the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and taking note of the report of the Broadband Commission entitled *The State of Broadband 2016: Broadband Catalysing Sustainable Development*, which provides an evaluation of the progress made towards achieving the Commission's advocacy targets for broadband and the state of broadband development worldwide, and the report of the special session of the Commission, entitled "Working together to connect the next 1.5 billion by 2020", in which the Commission noted that less than half the world's population is currently connected to the Internet and fewer than 1 in 10 people in the least developed countries are connected,

Noting further the call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Economic and Social Council, and reaffirming the role of the Commission, as set forth in Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit,

Noting the holding of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in Geneva from 9 to 13 May 2016,

Recognizing the fact that information and communications technologies are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare, and that the increasing pervasiveness of information and communications technologies within society has had profound impacts on the ways in which Governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers and citizens participate in public and private life,

Stressing, however, that recent progress notwithstanding, there remain important and evident digital divides between developed and developing countries in terms of the availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies and access to broadband, and stressing also the need to close digital divides, including with regard to such issues as the affordability of the Internet, and to ensure that the benefits of information and communications technologies, including new technologies, are available to all,

Reaffirming that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, and emphasizing that progress towards the vision of the World Summit on the Information Society should be considered not only as a function of economic development and the spreading of information and communications technologies but also as a function of progress with respect to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

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[7] A/71/67-E/2016/51.

Reaffirming also that Internet governance, including the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011, in Baku in 2012, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014, in João Pessoa, Brazil, in 2015, and in Jalisco, Mexico, in 2016,

Conscious of the challenges faced by States, in particular developing countries, in combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by terrorists, and emphasizing the need to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building activities, at their request, for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such use in accordance with national and international law,

Reaffirming the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its inception, and recognizing that the effective participation, partnership and cooperation of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, have been and continue to be vital in developing the information society,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, trade and development, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both the public and private sectors, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interactions, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

3. *Recognizes* the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[8] and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, accordingly urges all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals, and requests United Nations entities facilitating the World Summit on the Information Society action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Reaffirms its commitment* to bridging digital and knowledge divides, recognizes that its approach must be multidimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access, and acknowledges that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of quality and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

5. *Stresses* the important role played by the private sector, civil society and technical communities in information and communications technologies;

6. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[2] and Tunis[4] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder

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[8] Resolution 70/1.

partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, including the least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

7. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Also notes* that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy and that connectivity is correlated with increases in gross domestic product, and recognizes the critical importance of expanding the participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy;

9. *Welcomes* initiatives such as "eTrade for All", launched at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, which provides a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to have a clear picture of the programmes that they could fund;

10. *Recognizes* that, despite recent progress, there are still significant digital divides between and within developed and developing countries, including the fact that 30 per cent of the population in developing countries has access to mobile broadband connectivity, compared with 85 per cent in developed countries, and urges all relevant stakeholders to address the growing digital divides between and within countries through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments at all levels and international cooperation to improve affordability, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and appropriate financing, with a continued focus on pro-poor policies on information and communications technologies, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level;

11. *Also recognizes* that a gender digital divide persists, with 40.8 per cent of women online, compared with 45.9 per cent of men, encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to information and communications technologies for development, including new technologies, in this respect reiterates its request for relevant United Nations entities, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to support the implementation and monitoring of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society by placing a new emphasis on gender, and reaffirms the commitment to ensure women's full participation in decision-making processes related to information and communications technologies;

12. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;[7]

13. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard;

14. *Acknowledges* the extension of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum through 2025, as set out in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;[6]

15. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, including discussion on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, in particular those on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

16. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of Governments and stakeholders from all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

17. *Notes* the proposal by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the structure and composition of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2016/22 on 27 July 2016, in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, also notes its ongoing work to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and further notes that the group will ensure full involvement of Governments and other relevant stakeholders, in particular from developing countries, taking into account all their diverse views and expertise;

18. *Recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome the digital divides, and stresses that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[9]

19. *Also recognizes* the importance of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to address the challenges and opportunities in relation to the use of the Internet and e-commerce to develop their international trade capacities, among other things;

20. *Further recognizes* that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural disasters, and that all efforts should be deployed to reduce the price of information and communications technologies and broadband access, bearing in mind that deliberate interventions, including through research and development and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, may be necessary to spur the development of lower-cost connectivity options;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of the free flow of information and knowledge, as the amount of information distributed worldwide grows and the role of communication becomes all the more important, and acknowledges that the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies in school curricula, open access to data, the fostering of competition, the creation of transparent, predictable, independent and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, the facilitation of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure sharing models, community-based approaches and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development;

22. *Notes* the commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for information and communications technologies can make significant contributions to development outcomes, in particular where they can reduce the risk of public and private investment, and increase the use of information and communications technologies to strengthen good governance and tax collection;

23. *Recognizes* the critical importance of private-sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, encourages Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation, and also recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to this end;

24. *Welcomes* the holding of the inaugural forum on financing for development, takes note of its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations, looks forward to further advancement in the follow-up process, welcomes the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, the progress made

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[9] Resolution 69/313, annex.

in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the inaugural multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, to help to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Sustainable Development Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;

25. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system,[10] submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/130 of 20 December 1995, and decides to discontinue the request made to the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to report to the Assembly on a biennial basis on the implementation of resolution 50/130, contained in that resolution and reiterated in resolution 51/172 of 16 December 1996;

26. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the review process of the World Summit on the Information Society, the summary by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals[11] and other relevant processes, as part of his annual report on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session an item entitled "Information and communications technologies for sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/213

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/461, para. 12)[12]

71/213. Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reiterating its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion and corruption, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

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[10] A/71/307.

[11] E/HLPF/2016/6.

[12] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[13] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation, including full support for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and other relevant international forums to strengthen cooperation in combating illicit financial flows, particularly those caused by tax evasion and corruption,

Noting the report of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, and inviting other regions to carry out similar exercises,

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hangzhou Summit communiqué,[14] and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[15] of, inter alia, the target related to combating illicit financial flows, recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to their achievement;

2. *Also welcomes* the inclusion in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[16] of actions intended to combat illicit financial flows, and in this regard looks forward to their implementation;

3. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption[13] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[17] and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to illicit financial flows in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the follow-up process of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

6. *Looks forward* to the inclusion, in the 2017 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, of an analysis of the theme of the present resolution, pursuant to the Task Force's mandate, and also looks forward to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

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[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[14] A/71/380, annex.

[15] Resolution 70/1.

[16] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[17] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/214

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/461/Add.1, para. 9)[18]

71/214. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 63/203 of 19 December 2008, 66/185 of 22 December 2011, 67/196 of 21 December 2012, 68/199 of 20 December 2013, 69/205 of 19 December 2014 and 70/187 of 22 December 2015,

Taking note of its resolutions 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 64/188 of 21 December 2009 and 65/142 of 20 December 2010,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recognizing that international trade is an engine for economic growth and poverty reduction, that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development and that it is recognized as one of the action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and one of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing also the critical role of women as producers and traders, and the need to address their specific challenges in order to facilitate women's equal and active participation in domestic, regional and international trade,

Recognizing further the major role that Aid for Trade can play, and the need to focus on Aid for Trade in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding the opportunities brought by globalization, major challenges still remain to be addressed through multilateralism,

Noting that challenges regarding the balance of the global economic system remain, as well as socioeconomic gaps both between countries and within them, and that the gains from globalization, while reducing extreme poverty by half, have been unevenly distributed, giving rise to extreme global inequality over the past 30 years, and acknowledging that growth has also been uneven, intermittent and often unsustainable, punctuated by damaging financial shocks and crises, and that many nations and peoples are still left behind,

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[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development[19] and the report of the Secretary-General;[20]

2. *Recognizes* that Member States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development[21] without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation, and that a revitalized global partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of the implementation of all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources;

3. *Reaffirms* the commitments made through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[22] in, inter alia, international trade as an important action area for sustainable development;

4. *Also reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for inclusive growth and poverty reduction, that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development and that the General Assembly will continue to promote a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization;

5. *Recognizes* that, at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, and as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, many members of the World Trade Organization reaffirmed the Doha Development Agenda and the declarations and decisions adopted at Doha and at the Ministerial Conferences held since then, and also reaffirmed their full commitment to conclude the Doha Development Agenda on that basis, while other members did not reaffirm the Doha mandates as they believe that new approaches are necessary to achieve meaningful outcomes in multilateral negotiations, and that members of the World Trade Organization have different views on how to address the negotiations and acknowledge its strong legal structure;

6. *Also recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, there remains a strong commitment on the part of all members of the World Trade Organization to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha issues, including advancing work in all three pillars of agriculture, namely, domestic support, market access and export competition, as well as non-agricultural market access, services, development, the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) and the rules of the World Trade Organization, and that the work on all the decisions adopted in part II of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration will remain an important element of the future agenda of the World Trade Organization;

7. *Further recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, the work of the World Trade Organization shall maintain development at its centre, that provisions for special and differential treatment shall remain integral to that work, that the members of the World Trade Organization shall also continue to give priority to the concerns and interests of the least developed countries and that many members of the World Trade Organization want to carry out that work on the basis of the Doha structure, while some want to explore new architectures;

8. *Recognizes* that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, while members of the World Trade Organization concur that officials should prioritize the work of the World Trade Organization where results have not yet been achieved, some wish to identify and discuss other issues for negotiation, and others do not, and that any decision to launch negotiations multilaterally on such issues would need to be agreed upon by all members of the World Trade Organization;

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[19] A/71/15 (Parts I–IV).

[20] A/71/275.

[21] Resolution 70/1.

[22] Resolution 69/313, annex.

9. *Welcomes* the decisions and the Declaration listed in parts I and II of the Bali Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization and the subsequent decision of 27 November 2014 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization on public stockholding for food security purposes;

10. *Emphasizes* that accession to the World Trade Organization remains an integral part of the development strategies of most countries aiming to benefit fully from the international trading system, and that it is also important for the further integration of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, into the rules-based multilateral trading system, that, in this context, acceding countries, particularly the least developed countries, need technical assistance prior to, during and in the follow-up to the accession process, within which obstacles should be addressed so as to facilitate the accession process, in order to achieve its early conclusion, and, with regard to acceding least developed countries, that the members of the World Trade Organization have agreed to implement the guidelines and the decision of 25 July 2012 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization on accession of least developed countries;

11. *Welcomes* the commitments to ratify the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization by the end of 2016, calls upon members of the World Trade Organization that have not yet done so to ratify the Agreement, notes the important role that bilateral and regional trade agreements can play in liberalizing trade and in the development of trade rules, while recognizing the need to ensure that they are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, also notes the commitments to working to ensure that bilateral and regional trade agreements complement the multilateral trading system, and are open, transparent, inclusive and consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, and further notes that plurilateral trade agreements with broad participation that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization can play an important role in complementing global liberalization initiatives;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to combat protectionism in all its forms and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations;

13. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

14. *Recalls* the convening of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Kenya for hosting the meeting;

15. *Welcomes* the convening of the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Buenos Aires from 11 to 14 December 2017, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the meeting;

16. *Also welcomes* the elements included in the package reached at the Tenth Ministerial Conference, including, inter alia, the decisions on agriculture, cotton and issues related to the least developed countries;

17. *Recalls* the importance of members of the World Trade Organization working together with a view to achieving positive outcomes at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference and beyond in a balanced, inclusive and transparent way, with a sense of urgency and solidarity, and to further working to strengthen the World Trade Organization;

18. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial, humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme and not to impose them in the future;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of fair, sound and robust national competition and consumer protection laws and policies and international cooperation, information exchange and capacity-building in the areas of competition policy and legislation in order to enhance the international competitiveness of developing countries;

20. *Also recognizes* the role of services, in particular infrastructure services, in diversification and structural transformation, and the importance of supporting developing countries in the establishment of policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks that contribute to resilient and quality infrastructure development;

21. *Welcomes* the launch of the "eTrade for All" initiative at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, which seeks to provide a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to obtain a clear picture of programmes that they could fund;

22. *Recognizes* that international trade and investment offers opportunities but also requires complementary actions at the national level, commits to strengthening domestic enabling environments and the implementation of sound domestic policies and reforms conducive to realizing the potential of trade for inclusive growth and sustainable development, and recognizes the need for value addition by developing countries and for further integration of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises into value chains;

23. *Stresses* the importance of women's and girls' equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation and of removing any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, and in this regard urges Member States, the entities of the United Nations system and other international actors to take the actions required to address specific challenges to the equal and active participation of women-owned companies in international trade, including enhancing access to education and finance, increasing skills and knowledge and securing an enabling environment at all levels;

24. *Takes note* of the convening of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and welcomes its outcome documents;[23]

25. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development and in contributing to supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, taking into account the Nairobi Maafikiano, adopted at the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular its paragraphs 10, 12 and 14;[24]

26. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to monitor and assess the evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective, with particular attention to its potential contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to monitor and assess persistent and emerging development challenges to trade from a sustainable development perspective, in accordance with its mandate;

27. *Recognizes* the commitment to continue to address the needs of small, vulnerable economies and to favourably consider the adoption of such measures as would facilitate their fuller integration into the multilateral trading system, taking into account the needs of small, vulnerable economies in all areas of negotiations, without creating a subcategory of members of the World Trade Organization, and in this regard encourages progress on the implementation of the World Trade Organization work programme on small economies, which supports their efforts towards sustainable development, as also reflected in the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;[25]

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the further implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International trade and development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

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[23] TD/519 and Add.1 and 2.

[24] TD/519/Add.2.

[25] Resolution 69/15, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/215

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/461/Add.2, para. 9)[26]

71/215. International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010, 66/187 of 22 December 2011, 67/197 of 21 December 2012, 68/201 of 20 December 2013, 69/206 of 19 December 2014 and 70/188 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[27] its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[28] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[29] Agenda 21,[30] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[31] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[32]

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[33]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[34]

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[27] Resolution 55/2.

[28] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[29] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[30] Ibid., annex II.

[31] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[32] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[33] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[34] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Taking note of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[35]

Recognizing the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and taking note of its progress report,[36]

Recalling the high-level thematic debate on the state of the world economy and finance and its impact on development, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 17 and 18 May 2012,

Recalling also the meeting of the Second Committee, held pursuant to resolution 67/197, on 13 November 2013, to discuss actions in response to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development and prospects for restoring confidence and economic growth,

Appreciating the fact that the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016, the first Summit of the Group of 20 to take place in a developing country following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the broad participation of developing countries, and including the Chair of the Group of 77, has endorsed the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an important contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and looking forward to its implementation, while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United Nations in its work in order to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the United Nations system,

Noting the twentieth Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 16 to 18 June 2016,

Concerned about addressing the effects of the world financial and economic crisis so as to avoid its recurrence and continue to promote the global economic stability and underlying institutional reforms required to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable global economic growth for the benefit of all countries,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility and slowdown of global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including capital outflows from some emerging and developing economies, continued low commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Recognizing that, while some developing countries have been major contributors to recent global economic growth, the economic crisis has reduced their capacity to withstand further shocks, recalling the commitments made to support development and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and reaffirming the need to work cooperatively to meet development commitments to ensure the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing also that the effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Recalling the commitment to work in solidarity on a coordinated and comprehensive global response to the effects of the consequences of the world financial and economic crisis on development and to take actions aimed at, inter alia, restoring confidence, sustaining economic growth and creating full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and people with disabilities, and equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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[35] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[36] A/64/884.

Reaffirming the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, sustainable development and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

Recognizing the importance of scaling up international tax cooperation, and in this regard welcoming the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the support to tax authorities of developing countries through the Addis Tax Initiative, which contribute to the mobilization of domestic resources for the Sustainable Development Goals and the curbing of illicit financial flows and tax evasion,

Recognizing the need to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings in order to improve the quality of ratings, acknowledging the efforts of the Financial Stability Board and others in this area, expressing support for establishing greater transparency requirements for evaluation standards of credit-rating agencies, and affirming the commitment to continue ongoing work on these issues,

Recognizing also the contribution of the first and second Panel of Eminent Persons of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the context of the United Nations sustainable development pillar and United Nations reform, as well as the contribution of the United Nations system to sustainable finance and investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, including through the informal expert advisory group of the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session, and recognizing further the contribution of the independent team of advisers to the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Acknowledging that the quota and governance reforms agreed at the International Monetary Fund in 2010 became effective in January 2016, and acknowledging also that the Executive Board of the Fund decided in November 2015 to include the renminbi as one of the five currencies that currently make up the basket of special drawing rights,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[37]

2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national efforts to ensure sustainable development, including strong, sustained, balanced, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[38] and encourages the international financial institutions to align their programmes and policies with the 2030 Agenda in accordance with their mandates;

3. *Also recognizes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the financial and economic crisis, and further recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to manage the consequences of volatility in global financial and commodity markets, to tackle high unemployment and indebtedness in several countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances, to reform and strengthen the international financial system and to continue and to enhance the coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level;

4. *Further recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

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[37] A/71/312.

[38] Resolution 70/1.

5. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledging, however, that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing and recognizes the applicable requirements of the International Monetary Fund debt limits policy and/or the World Bank non-concessional borrowing policy, as well as the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and will work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

6. *Invites*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating developing country financial and macroeconomic stability, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

7. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its annual forum on financing for development follow-up, a discussion and analysis of systemic issues and challenges, taking into account the roles of the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter, including its resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein;

8. *Notes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates that make the coordination of their actions crucial;

9. *Resolves* to strengthen the coherence and consistency of multilateral financial, investment, trade and development policy and environment institutions and platforms and to increase cooperation between major international institutions, while respecting mandates and governance structures, and commits itself to taking better advantage of relevant United Nations forums for promoting universal and holistic coherence and international commitments to sustainable development, building on the vision of the Monterrey Consensus;[28]

10. *Recalls* that countries must have the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and pursue tailored and targeted responses to the various types of shocks, including economic and financial crises, and calls for conditionalities to be streamlined to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

11. *Notes*, in this regard, the increase in resources and the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and flexible instruments, such as the precautionary and liquidity line, the flexible credit line and the rapid financing instrument, and the refinement of the lending framework for low-income countries, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities;

12. *Encourages*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

13. *Also encourages* multilateral development banks, within their respective mandates, to continue to expand technical assistance, disseminate and share their knowledge and best practices and enhance the multiplier

effect of their financing by leveraging more resources from more sources, including by mobilizing private investment, to provide innovative and integral solutions to multidimensional development problems, in particular in developing and emerging economies;

14. *Invites* the multilateral development banks and other international development banks to continue providing both concessional and non-concessional stable, long-term development finance by leveraging contributions and capital and by mobilizing resources from capital markets, and stresses that development banks should make optimal use of their resources and balance sheets, consistent with maintaining their financial integrity, and should update and develop their policies in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

15. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the global development finance architecture, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

16. *Emphasizes* the relevance of inclusion in the international financial system at all levels and the importance of considering financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

17. *Recommits* to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, recognizes the importance that the International Monetary Fund continues to be adequately resourced, and supports and reiterates its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy;

18. *Notes* that the members of the International Monetary Fund are committed to concluding the fifteenth general review of quotas and to agreeing on a new quota formula as a basis for a realignment of quota shares, which will result in increased shares for dynamic economies in line with their relative positions in the world economy and hence likely in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members;

19. *Acknowledges* the importance of the international financial institutions supporting, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular developing countries, and recommits to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

20. *Recognizes* that there are continued risks to financial stability, which suggests a need to continue to implement agreed reforms of the international financial and monetary system;

21. *Reaffirms* that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts, reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, expresses respect for each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, at the same time recognizes that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, and commits to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinvigorating the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

22. *Recommits* to a redoubling of its efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, to reducing opportunities for tax avoidance and considering inserting anti-abuse clauses in all tax treaties, to enhancing disclosure practices and transparency in both source and destination countries, including by seeking to ensure transparency in all financial transactions between Governments and companies, with respect to relevant tax authorities, and to making sure that all companies,

including multinationals, pay taxes to the Governments of the countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its existing programme of meetings and consultations with Member States on investment agreements and investment policies that promote a better understanding of issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimensions, in accordance with its mandate;

24. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, and also recognizes the need to continue regular reviews of the role of special drawing rights, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system;

25. *Takes note* of the work by the Financial Stability Board on financial market reform, commits to sustaining or strengthening frameworks for macroprudential regulation and countercyclical buffers, reaffirms the commitment to hasten completion of the reform agenda on financial market regulation, including assessing and if necessary reducing the systemic risks associated with shadow banking, markets for derivatives, securities lending and repurchase agreements, and also reaffirms the commitment to addressing the risk created by "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions and to addressing cross-border elements in effective resolution of troubled, systemically important financial institutions;

26. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, stresses the need to continue to strengthen surveillance of the financial policies of countries, and in this regard notes the new surveillance approach of the International Monetary Fund to better integrate bilateral and multilateral surveillance, along with cross-border and cross-sectoral linkages with macroeconomic and macroprudential policies, while paying closer attention to the spillover effects from national economic and financial policies onto the global economy;

27. *Also reiterates* the need to resolve to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings;

28. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments should maximize the use of objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including the potential impact of the role played by private credit rating agencies on the development prospects of developing countries, in accordance with their mandates;

29. *Welcomes* efforts by new development banks to develop safeguard systems in open consultation with stakeholders on the basis of established international standards, and encourages all development banks to establish or maintain social and environmental safeguard systems, including on human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, that are transparent, effective, efficient and time-sensitive;

30. *Recognizes* the need for the international financial institutions, as appropriate, to promote gender mainstreaming in their policies and programmes, including macroeconomic, job creation and structural reform policies and programmes, in accordance with relevant national priorities and strategies;

31. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions and regional development banks, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

32. *Recommits* itself to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

33. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;[39]

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[39] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to consider including in the report an analysis of options for an enhanced approach to financial stress in developing countries, to be prepared with input from the major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, unless otherwise agreed;

35. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/216

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/461/Add.3, para. 8)[40]

71/216. External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012, 68/202 of 20 December 2013, 69/207 of 19 December 2014 and 70/190 of 22 December 2015,

Noting the work of the United Nations in this area,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[41]

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledging that debt crises are costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting the poor and vulnerable in particular,

Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, is central to the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

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[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[41] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Reiterating that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as volatile commodity and energy prices and international capital flows, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility and slowdown of global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, and stressing the need for continued efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand,

Recognizing the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention, management and resolution tools,

Expressing deep concern that a number of countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as middle-income countries, face challenges in servicing their debt and that, in spite of international efforts, some developing countries are again struggling with high debt burdens and are classified, in accordance with the debt sustainability assessments, as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[42]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

4. *Notes* the growing concerns about fast-rising corporate debt as a potential trigger of financial and debt crises;

5. *Stresses* the need to continue to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in some developed and developing countries;

6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, looks forward to the conclusion of the ongoing review of the Framework, and encourages open and transparent consultations, with the full engagement of public and private creditors and borrowers, with a view to incorporating their concerns, where appropriate;

7. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgments about a country's debt sustainability, and, in view of the new challenges and vulnerabilities for developing countries' external debt sustainability, substantiated by the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and recent joint analyses of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, stresses the need for improved data collection and quality in areas that include domestic public debt, domestic and external private debt, as well as legal and regulatory features, such as ownership, currency denomination and jurisdiction according to national priorities;

8. *Also reiterates* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect and release data, where appropriate, welcomes the ongoing work of relevant institutions to create a central data registry including information on debt restructuring, and calls

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[42] A/71/276.

for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

9. *Stresses* the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, and encourages further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

10. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the export prospects of debtor countries, sustainable debt management, sound macroeconomic policies that also support job creation, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence on the creation of an enabling environment at all levels, that is conducive to development, and also recognizes the need to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability;

11. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that were not part of the existing debt relief initiatives now have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indicating a need to consider, as appropriate, stronger debt management initiatives for those countries, and stresses the importance of medium- and long-term debt sustainability to deal with bilateral and non-Paris Club debt;

12. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy the full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute to debt workouts, as appropriate, in order to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including through providing comparable treatment, to the extent possible, to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

13. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, acknowledges that sound debt management initiatives can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and with the promotion of sustained economic growth and development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[43] according to their national priorities and strategies;

14. *Notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of a debt crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

15. *Acknowledges* the efforts of, and invites creditors to provide additional flexibility to, developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their national debt concerns, while taking into account their specific economic and social situations and needs;

16. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts to tackle increasingly complex cross-border challenges that have serious effects on development and debt sustainability;

17. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations and of the international financial institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained and inclusive growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

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[43] Resolution 70/1.

18. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledges that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizes the applicable requirements of the debt limits policy of the International Monetary Fund and/or the non-concessional borrowing policy of the World Bank and the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and resolves to work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

19. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Sustainable Development Goals projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

20. *Expresses its concern* regarding the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to disrupt the will of the large majority of bondholders who accept a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, given the potential broader implications in other countries, notes legislative steps taken by certain countries to prevent these activities and encourage all Governments to take action, as appropriate, and furthermore, takes note of discussions in the United Nations on debt issues;

21. *Welcomes* the reforms to pari passu and collective action clauses proposed by the International Capital Market Association and endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to reduce the vulnerability of sovereigns to holdout creditors, encourages countries to take further action to include those clauses in all their bond issuances, and welcomes the continued work of the International Monetary Fund to monitor the uptake of the clauses and explore options for resolving the issue with the outstanding stock of debt without such clauses;

22. *Notes* that the United Nations, as a universal intergovernmental body, has provided a platform for both creditors and debtors to discuss ways to improve external debt sustainability, encourages the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up to continue such discussions, within its mandate, and in this regard invites continued ongoing cooperation among the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, relevant United Nations entities, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other relevant forums, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter;

23. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their provision of concessional and grant-based financing to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and notes the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to eligible developing countries in the form of zero-interest loans;

24. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable upstream and downstream debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

25. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability with a view to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report a substantive description of current options for enhanced approaches to addressing debt sustainability in developing countries, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/217

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/462, para. 14)[44]

71/217. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/192 of 22 December 2015 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[45] supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2017/206 of 5 October 2016, in which the Council decided that, on an exceptional basis, without prejudice to General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 and without setting a precedent for future discussions, the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up would convene from 22 to 25 May 2017, in New York, and would include the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

Welcoming the launch of the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, in April 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Conferences on Financing for Development;[46]

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[44] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[45] Resolution 70/1.

[46] A/71/311.

2. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of all the commitments included in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[47]

3. *Looks forward* to the input of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, convened by the Secretary-General, through its annual report, in accordance with paragraph 133 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, on progress in implementing the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[45] and its advice for the intergovernmental follow-up thereto on progress, implementation gaps and recommendations for corrective action, while taking into consideration the national and regional dimensions;

4. *Welcomes* the agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2016 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,[48] and looks forward to staying engaged to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges to the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2017 forum;

5. *Looks forward* to the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

6. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to begin early planning of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and to consider using in 2017 the modalities that applied to the 2016 forum;[49]

7. *Decides* that future decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the launch of the Global Infrastructure Forum, on 16 April 2016 in Washington, D.C., during the spring meeting of the Bretton Woods institutions, reiterates that the Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps, in particular in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries, and that the recommendations contained in the Chair's statement of 16 April 2016, including, inter alia, the next steps for the Forum, will serve as an input to the meetings of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, and in this regard looks forward to further briefings by the multilateral development banks on this matter;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the first annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, in helping to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the technology bank for the least developed countries;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the launch of the first annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, held on 6 and 7 June 2016 at Headquarters, whose Co-Chairs' summary[50] served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and in this regard requests the President of the General Assembly to convene briefings by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum for member States, which shall take place no later than January 2017, on the recommendations contained in the Co-Chairs' summary with regard to the next steps for the multi-stakeholder forum;

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[47] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[48] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/71/3), chap. III.

[49] See resolution 69/313, annex, para. 132.

[50] E/HLPF/2016/6.

11. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development", and also decides that there will be no report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, on a one-off and exceptional basis, without setting any precedent for the annual periodicity of the report, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/218

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463, para. 32),[51] by a recorded vote of 166 to 8, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Tonga, Vanuatu

71/218. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014 and 70/194 of 22 December 2015 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[52] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

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[51] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[52] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[53] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[54]

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of El-Jiyeh electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206, 69/212 and 70/194,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 70/194, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[55]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the Trust Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[55]

2. *Reiterates*, for the eleventh consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese El-Jiyeh electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,[56] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

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[53] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[54] Ibid., annex II.

[55] A/71/217.

[56] A/62/343.

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean Basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean Oil Spill Restoration Trust Fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at El-Jiyeh electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the Trust Fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 71/219

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463, para. 32)[57]

71/219. Combating sand and dust storms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling its resolution 70/195 of 22 December 2015 entitled "Combating sand and dust storms",

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for

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[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[78] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[79] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 1/7 of 27 June 2014 on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality,[80]

Noting the adoption, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-second session, of resolution 72/7 of 19 May 2016 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which it endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",

Recalling also its resolution 70/206 of 22 December 2015 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Taking note of the Regional Programme to Combat Sand and Dust Storms of the United Nations Environment Programme, and also taking note of other initiatives, including the ministerial meeting on sand and dust storms held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Acknowledging that, based on the notion of hazards as defined in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[81] addressing multidimensional hazards, including those posed by sand and dust storms, contributes towards the achievement of the goals, targets and priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,

Emphasizing the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, taking note of the initiative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in hosting a regional meeting of environment ministers in Tehran on 29 September 2010, welcoming the holding of other meetings with the active participation of all countries, and taking note with appreciation of other ongoing initiatives by various countries to combat sand and dust storms, especially at the regional level,

Stressing the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to managing and mitigating the effects of sand and dust storms through enhancing early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast sand and dust storms, and affirming that resilient action to combat sand and dust storms requires a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of sand and dust storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

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[78] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[80] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex.

[81] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

1. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms and the unsustainable land-management practices, among other factors, that can cause or exacerbate these phenomena, including climate change, pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, also recognizes that, in the past few years, sand and dust storms have inflicted substantial economic, social and environmental damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia, underscores the need to treat them and to promptly take measures to address those challenges, and decides to convene a high-level interactive dialogue of the General Assembly, during its seventy-second session, to discuss action-oriented recommendations to address the economic, social and environmental challenges of the affected countries, including ways to improve policy coordination at the global level to address those challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals;[62]

2. *Acknowledges* the role of the United Nations development system in advancing international cooperation and support to combat sand and dust storms, and invites all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the World Health Organization, the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and all other related organizations to integrate, in their respective cooperation frameworks, operational programmes, measures and actions aimed at combating sand and dust storms so as to address the problem and contribute to the enhancement of, inter alia, capacity-building at the national level, the implementation of regional and subregional projects, the sharing of information, best practices and experiences and the boosting of technical cooperation in the affected countries and countries of origin, to improve the implementation of sustainable land management practices and to take measures to prevent and control the main factors of sand and dust storms and the development of early warning systems as tools to combat sand and dust storms in accordance with their strategic plans;

3. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to continue to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating sand and dust storms, including through improved implementation of sustainable land-management practices, and to promote regional cooperation in this matter;

4. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant entities of the United Nations development system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet the objectives set out in the present resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and, among other factors, is a serious challenge to the sustainable development of all countries, including those affected by sand and dust storms;

6. *Commends* the commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to address sand and dust storms, and in this regard notes Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 of 27 May 2016 on sand and dust storms, adopted during its second session;[63]

7. *Acknowledges* the intention of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an international event on combating sand and dust storms, with the cooperation of the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as other relevant United Nations entities, in 2017;

8. *Also acknowledges* the global assessment of sand and dust storms, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, including the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and transmitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/195,[64] which sets out proposals for consolidated and coordinated technical and policy options for responding to sand and dust storms;

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[62] See resolution 70/1.

[63] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[64] See A/71/376.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Combating sand and dust storms", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/220

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463, para. 32)[65]

71/220. Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/149 of 20 December 2010 and 68/208 of 20 December 2013,

Recalling also the relevant recommendations of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June 1972,[66]

Noting the relevant provisions of Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992[67] and reaffirmed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), adopted in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002,[68] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", adopted in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012,[69]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the efforts to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, including preventing and significantly reducing, by 2025, marine pollution of all kinds,[70]

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[66] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one.

[67] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[68] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[69] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[70] See resolution 70/1.

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[71] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[72] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[73] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling relevant international and regional instruments such as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[74] the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter,[75] the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,[76] the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,[77] the Agreement on the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Area of the South-East Pacific,[78] the Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area[79] and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic,[80]

Taking note of the ministerial declaration of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission), adopted in Copenhagen on 3 October 2013, in which the signatories recognized the need for forward-looking options for solutions and an assessment of the environmental risks posed by, inter alia, munitions dumped at sea, welcomed the 2013 report of the ad hoc expert group to update and review the existing information on dumped chemical munitions in the Baltic Sea and agreed to produce another one-off thematic assessment of the environmental risks of hazardous submerged objects, also utilizing the 2013 report on dumped chemical munitions, with the new assessment to be presented by 2018,[81]

Noting the national, regional and international activities, including scientific research,[82] data collection and sharing, awareness-raising, reporting on encounters and technical advice, related to munitions dumped at sea, inter alia, in the frameworks of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean,

Emphasizing that, in the report on the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Third Review Conference), adopted at The Hague on 19 April 2013, the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction were invited to support voluntary sharing of information, raising awareness and cooperation on this issue,

Noting that Member States, international and regional organizations and civil society have undertaken activities to discuss and promote the issues related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including international cooperation and the exchange of experiences and practical knowledge,

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[71] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[72] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[73] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[74] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[75] Ibid., vol. 1046, No. 15749.

[76] Ibid., vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[77] Ibid., vol. 1102, No. 16908.

[78] Ibid., vol. 1648, No. 28325.

[79] Ibid., vol. 2099, No. 36495.

[80] Ibid., vol. 2354, No. 42279.

[81] See the findings of the Expert Group on Environmental Risks of Hazardous Submerged Objects of the Helsinki Commission, under the supervision of the Response Working Group of the Commission.

[82] See, for example, the findings of the Baltic Sea research project entitled "Chemical Munitions, Search and Assessment (CHEMSEA)", which is conducting research on environmental effects related to chemical munitions dumped at sea. The findings summarize all results obtained by the project.

Noting also that the first global integrated marine assessment, also known as the World Oceans Assessment, which included a specific chapter on waste, was launched in 2015 and welcomed with appreciation by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015,[83]

Noting further the concerns about the potential long-term environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, including their potential impact on human health and safety and on the marine environment and resources,

Recognizing the mandates and capacities of competent United Nations system entities in the fields of marine environment monitoring, research and information-sharing, as well as pollution preparedness and response,[84]

Recognizing also the ongoing efforts aimed at awareness-raising, information-sharing and capacity-building at various levels, as well as partnership and cooperation on the issue among relevant regional and international bodies, including the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and others,[85]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[86] including the views submitted and contained therein;

2. *Notes* the importance of raising awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant international and regional organizations to keep under observation the issue of the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, to continue outreach efforts to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to that issue and to cooperate, including by strengthening existing efforts within regional seas conventions and other international, regional and subregional activities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents;

4. *Encourages* voluntary sharing of information on waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea through conferences, seminars, workshops, training courses and publications aimed at the general public and industry in order to reduce related risks;

5. *Also encourages* partnerships between Governments, industry and civil society for raising awareness, reporting and monitoring of waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

6. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so to consider providing assistance and sharing expertise aimed at building capacities related to risk assessment, monitoring, information-gathering, risk prevention and response to incidents resulting from waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

7. *Encourages* Member States to share experiences, good practices and information on the technologies available to treat, conserve or safely destroy the waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to seek the views of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of the environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, also with a view to exploring the possibility of establishing a database[87] and options for the most appropriate institutional framework for such a database, as well as identifying the appropriate intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system for further consideration and implementation, as appropriate, of the cooperative measures envisaged in the present resolution, building on and without duplicating existing activities, and with a view to achieving efficiency and synergies, taking into account the mandates and capacities of relevant international and regional organizations;

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[83] See A/70/112 and A/71/190.

[84] Competent United Nations system entities include, inter alia, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Secretariat.

[85] See A/71/190.

[86] A/71/190.

[87] Such a database could contain relevant and voluntarily shared information on, inter alia, the location of dumping sites, the type, quantity and, to the extent possible, the current condition of chemical munitions, the recorded environmental impact, best practices on risk prevention and response to incidents or accidental encounters and destruction or impact reduction technologies, including by means of data collection and management.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, prepared using responses of Member States and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as other available information, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/221

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463, para. 32),[55] by a recorded vote of 147 to 26, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia

Against: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen

Abstaining: China, Ecuador, Guinea, Mali, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey

71/221. Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/202 of 21 December 2012 and 69/210 of 19 December 2014,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

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[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia.

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[89] and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[90] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[91] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[92] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[93] the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[94] taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

Recalling also the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[95] the political declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth session,[96] which reviewed the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the agreed conclusions, adopted by the Commission at its sixtieth session, on women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development,[97] and stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development,

Welcoming the contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits and their reviews in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as well as the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of government and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries, and in this regard taking note of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth,

Emphasizing the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

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[89] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[90] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[91] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[92] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

[93] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[94] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[95] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[96] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 59/1, annex.

[97] Ibid., *2016, Supplement No. 7* (E/2016/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing that entrepreneurship drives economic growth by creating jobs, promoting decent work and sustainable agriculture and fostering innovation,

Recognizing also the positive contribution entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, young people, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people,

Recognizing further that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable practices and consumption patterns,

Deeply concerned by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

Reaffirming its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services,

Recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation,

Noting with concern that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, including fear of failure, lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

Recognizing the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for development;[98]

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop policies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies;

4. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such a policy, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, can help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;[99]

5. *Also acknowledges* the important role that trade plays in creating the environment for encouraging competition, innovation and opportunity for entrepreneurs, and reaffirms in this regard the critical role that a rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, and multi-stakeholder initiatives such as "eTrade for All", can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development as they advance towards sustainable development;

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[98] A/71/210.

6. *Emphasizes* that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Recognizes* the remarkable role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

8. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, especially in rural areas, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of services to such populations, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women, young people and the most vulnerable people;

9. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and also encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

10. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy and integrating them into national social security systems, as appropriate, including by simplifying administrative processes, for example, enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, and notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy;

11. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness and increase their productive capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship;

12. *Also recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services accessible to them;

13. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, and encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education system, including through, inter alia, skills development, capacity-building, professional training programmes and business incubators, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

14. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[99] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

15. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to

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[99] Resolution 70/1.

increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

16. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurship can create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting social entrepreneurship, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social innovation;

17. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitization, smart cities and creating start-ups, and generating full and productive employment and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

18. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, and notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship;

19. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including, inter alia, the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions;

20. *Also stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels as appropriate, and to continue contributing to the work of the Statistical Commission on the global indicator framework;

21. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

22. *Acknowledges* that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and stresses the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact, environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to avoid forced and child labour abuse;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

24. *Encourages* countries to consider establishing or strengthening national centres of excellence in entrepreneurship and similar bodies, and also encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices;

25. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include the item entitled "Sustainable development" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/222

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.1, para. 13)[100]

71/222. International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/193 of 22 December 1992 on the observance of World Day for Water, 55/196 of 20 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it proclaimed 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it proclaimed 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation, and 67/204 of 21 December 2012 on the implementation of the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013,

Recalling also its resolutions 64/198 of 21 December 2009 on the midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and 69/215 of 19 December 2014, in which it welcomed activities undertaken for the observance of the Decade and encouraged relevant parties to continue to take steps to achieve the internationally agreed water-related goals,

Recalling further its resolutions 68/157 of 18 December 2013 on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and 70/169 of 17 December 2015 on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council, including resolutions 24/18 of 27 September 2013[101] and 27/7 of 25 September 2014,[102]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 on guidelines for international decades in economic and social fields and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

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[100] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[101] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[102] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV.

Recalling also its resolutions 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming the sustainable development goals and targets, including those related to water resources, contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and determined to achieve the goal of ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and other related goals and targets,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[103] which highlighted the commitment to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015,

Reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[104] is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that the full implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and a vital element of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other relevant goals in the social, environmental and economic fields,

Deeply concerned that lack of access to a safe drinking water source, basic sanitation and sound hygiene, water-related disasters, water scarcity and water pollution will be further exacerbated by urbanization, population growth, desertification, drought and other extreme weather events and climate change, as well as by the lack of capacity to ensure integrated water resource management,

Concerned by the slow progress in advocating for and addressing existing gaps in gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women that hampers the achievement of sustainable development goals and targets,

Concerned also that many water-related ecosystems are threatened by poor management and unsustainable development and face increased uncertainty and risks owing to climate change and other factors,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[105]

Acknowledging the importance of deepening cooperation and partnership at all levels for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals on water and sanitation,

Recognizing that water-related issues, including relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, need to be better reflected in the agendas of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Noting national, regional and global efforts and partnership initiatives to implement the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, the numerous recommendations from global and regional water and water-related events and the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting also the establishment of the High-level Panel on Water by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank, and looking forward to its work,

Noting further the *United Nations World Water Development Report*, a joint project of United Nations agencies and entities, in particular the edition entitled *Water for a Sustainable World*, the report of the annual international conference of UN-Water held in Zaragoza, Spain, in 2015, on the theme "Water and sustainable development: from vision to action", UN-Water advice on means of implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and the work of the Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation,

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[103] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[104] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[105] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Recognizing the important role of relevant initiatives and multi-stakeholder partnerships in building political support and encouraging investment in water and sanitation,

Noting the outcomes and the Ministerial Declaration of the seventh World Water Forum, held in Daegu and Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, from 12 to 17 April 2015,

Noting also the outcomes of the high-level interactive dialogue at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held on 30 March 2015,

Noting further the Declaration of the High-level International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, held in Dushanbe on 9 and 10 June 2015,[106] and the call for action of the high-level symposium on the theme "Sustainable Development Goal 6 and targets: ensuring that no one is left behind in access to water and sanitation", held in Dushanbe from 9 to 11 August 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources;[107]

2. *Welcomes* the activities related to water undertaken by Member States, the Secretariat and organizations of the United Nations system, inter alia, through inter-agency work, as well as contributions from major groups, for the observance of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008, the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, and the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015;

3. *Proclaims* the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", to commence on World Water Day, 22 March 2018, and terminate on World Water Day, 22 March 2028;

4. *Decides* that the objectives of the Decade should be a greater focus on the sustainable development and integrated management of water resources for the achievement of social, economic and environmental objectives and on the implementation and promotion of related programmes and projects, as well as on the furtherance of cooperation and partnership at all levels in order to help to achieve internationally agreed water-related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[108]

5. *Highlights* the importance of promoting efficient water usage at all levels, taking into account the water, food, energy, environment nexus, including in the implementation of national development programmes;

6. *Decides* that these objectives should be pursued, inter alia, by improving knowledge generation and dissemination, facilitating access to knowledge and the exchange of good practices, generating new information relevant to the water-related Sustainable Development Goals, pursuing advocacy, networking and promoting partnership and action by different actors to implement the water-related Goals and targets in coordination with existing initiatives and strengthening communication actions at various levels for the implementation of the water-related Goals;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the participation and full involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including women, children, young people, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, in the implementation of the Decade at all levels;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, to take appropriate steps, within existing resources, to plan and organize the activities of the Decade at the global, regional and country levels, taking into account the outcomes of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, and the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant United Nations structures, as well as the High-level Panel on Water;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for further steps to accelerate and sustain action towards the mobilization of means of implementation, and encourages the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms,

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[106] See A/C.2/70/5, annex.

[107] A/71/260.

[108] Resolution 70/1.

as mutually agreed, and for the stepping up of international cooperation and collaboration in science, research and innovation for the sustainable development of water resources at the local, national and regional levels, including through public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and on the basis of common interest and mutual benefit;

10. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the mobilization of financial resources and technical assistance and to strengthen the effectiveness and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of the water-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the support of UN-Water, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84, to facilitate the implementation of the Decade in cooperation with Governments and other relevant stakeholders;

12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, during the seventy-first session, a working-level dialogue to discuss improving the integration and coordination of the work of the United Nations on the water-related goals and targets under its sustainable development pillar, with a particular emphasis on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while preserving its integrated and indivisible nature, and a subsequent working-level dialogue to take stock of the discussions at the first dialogue and to exchange views on the relevance of possible next steps, and in this regard:

(*a*) Decides that the dialogues shall be ad hoc, informal, inclusive, open-ended and interactive, with the participation of countries, relevant regional and international organizations, relevant United Nations system entities, UN-Water and other relevant stakeholders;

(*b*) Invites the President of the General Assembly to appoint two co-moderators for the dialogues, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, who will also prepare the informal summary of the dialogues;

(*c*) Also invites the President of the General Assembly to prepare a concept note for the dialogues, in collaboration with the co-moderators, taking into consideration relevant work and processes and avoiding duplication;

13. *Decides*, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84, to review the implementation of the Decade at its seventy-seventh session, and in this regard also decides to consider, at its seventy-third session, the future arrangements for a midterm comprehensive review of the Decade;

14. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as other relevant partners, including the private sector, to contribute to the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, building on the momentum gained during the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005–2015, in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

RESOLUTION 71/223

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.1, para. 13),[109] by a recorded vote of 134 to 44, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria,

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[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Switzerland, Turkey

71/223. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009, 65/152 of 20 December 2010, 66/197 of 22 December 2011, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/203 of 21 December 2012, 68/210 of 20 December 2013, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 68/310 of 15 September 2014, 69/108 of 8 December 2014, 69/214 of 19 December 2014 and 70/201 of 22 December 2015 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[110] Agenda 21,[111] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[112] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[113] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[114] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[115] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[116] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[117] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[118] the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[119] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[120] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[121]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

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[110] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[111] Ibid., annex II.

[112] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[113] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[114] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[115] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[116] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[117] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[118] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[119] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[120] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[121] Resolution 68/6.

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[122] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[123] adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Declaration,

Recalling further the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024[124] and the Vienna Declaration,[125]

Recalling the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[126]

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the implementation of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Reaffirming also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[127] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Recalling the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),[128]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[129] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[130] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Emphasizing the importance of oceans for sustainable development, as embodied in Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and various decisions taken by the former Commission on Sustainable

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[122] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[123] Ibid., chap. II.

[124] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[125] Ibid., annex I.

[126] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[127] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[128] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[129] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[130] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Development, and welcoming in this regard its decision, in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of United Nations conferences, the United Nations Millennium Declaration[131] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching and essential objectives for sustainable development,

Noting that the advancement of sustainable consumption and production cuts across the three dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated manner,

Welcoming and recalling the commitment in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to making fundamental changes in the way that societies produce and consume goods and services, stressing that Governments, international organizations, the business sector and other non-State actors and individuals must contribute to changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns, including through the mobilization, from all sources, of financial and technical assistance to strengthen developing countries' scientific, technological and innovative capacities to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, encouraging the further implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,[132] and noting the importance of all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, as well as the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality and women's empowerment, and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[115] and urges its full implementation;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[133] and for the realization of sustainable development;

3. *Recognizes* in this regard that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds upon elements from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, inter alia, the establishment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the format and organizational arrangements of which were later established by its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, a strengthened Economic and Social Council, as later

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[131] Resolution 55/2.

[132] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[133] Resolution 70/1.

defined in its resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, the process that led to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, as later defined in its resolutions 68/309 and 70/1, the strengthening of the science-policy interface, including in the form of the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, and the process that led to the adoption of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;[134]

5. *Stresses* the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – at the global, regional and national levels, and requests the United Nations to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system;

6. *Affirms* the contributions of the ongoing efforts and commitments towards the full implementation of Agenda 21,[111] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[112] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[114] including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and stresses the importance of their continued implementation in the pursuit of sustainable development;

7. *Urges* the speedy and effective implementation and the effective follow-up and review of the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[126] and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reaffirms that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities;

8. *Emphasizes* that regional and subregional organizations have a role to play in promoting sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

9. *Notes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns[132] as a tool for action on sustainable consumption and production, and in this regard recognizes the commitment by the United Nations Environment Assembly to accelerate its implementation, including through relevant voluntary actions by Member States;

10. *Takes note* of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/8 of 27 May 2016 on sustainable consumption and production;[135]

11. *Decides* to designate the Economic and Social Council to receive reports from the Board and the secretariat of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, and affirms that due consideration should continue to be given to sustainable consumption and production at the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system,[136] reiterates the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

13. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

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[134] A/71/212.

[135] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[136] A/71/76-E/2016/55.

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in the report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the unfinished business of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/224

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.2, para. 18)[137]

71/224. Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[138] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[139] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[140] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[141] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[142] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[143] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[144] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[145] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[146] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[147] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[148] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[149] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[137] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[138] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[139] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[140] Ibid., annex II.

[141] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[142] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[143] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[144] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[145] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[146] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[147] Resolution 70/1.

[148] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[149] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[150] and looking forward to the convening and the result of the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017,

Recalling also the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[151]

Taking into account all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008, 65/155 of 20 December 2010, 67/205 of 21 December 2012 and 69/216 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[152]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[153] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[154] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity[155] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[156] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[157]

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[158]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

Recognizing also that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

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[150] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[151] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

[152] Resolution 60/1.

[153] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[154] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[155] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[156] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[157] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[158] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the potential increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, which increase their sustainable development challenges,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the safe transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity of and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote the integrated management of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the significant progress made on regional ocean governance through the formulation of the strategic action programme of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem project, endorsed by ministers in 21 countries of the region,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members and associate members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

Recalling the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work and its contribution to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

3. *Welcomes* the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

4. *Also welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

5. *Further welcomes* the planned launch of a databank at the end of 2016 by the Caribbean Sea Commission which aims to improve the management of the specific emerging critical issues related to the sustainability of the Caribbean Sea through the sharing of management experiences and project resource data, including, but not limited to, the prediction, monitoring and management of sargassum seaweed inundation faced by the Caribbean;

6. *Welcomes* the convening of the seventh summit of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Cuba on 4 June 2016, and takes note of the Havana Declaration, entitled "United for a sustainable Caribbean",[159] and the Plan of Action for 2016–2018,[160] which constitute fundamental instruments for promoting the preservation and sustainable use of the Caribbean Sea;

7. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations, as appropriate, in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

9. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

10. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to the relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

11. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[161] which entered into force in May 2011;

12. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[155] to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

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[159] A/70/996, annex I.

[160] Ibid., annex II.

[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

14. *Notes with deep concern* that invasive alien species, such as *Pterois miles* and *P. volitans*, known as lionfish, constitute an emerging threat to biodiversity in the wider Caribbean region, and urges the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide assistance and support in addressing this issue in the region;

15. *Also notes with deep concern* the sargassum seaweed influx and its negative impact on the people, the territory and the economy of the Caribbean, as well as the deterioration of the coral reefs;

16. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

17. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to actively support the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States for the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

18. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

20. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

21. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

22. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of a human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

23. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

24. *Encourages* the international community and the United Nations system, in line with their programming priorities, to support initiatives aimed at addressing mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in the wider Caribbean region included in the Plan of Action for 2016–2018;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainable development, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such, without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/225

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.2, para. 18)[162]

71/225. Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados[163] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Barbados Programme of Action),[164] the Mauritius Declaration[165] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[166] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway (Samoa Pathway)[167] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[168] including chapter VII, on the sustainable development of small island developing States,

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[169]

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the outcome documents and decisions of all United Nations conferences and processes related to the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030[170] and the New Urban Agenda,[171]

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[162] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[163] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[164] Ibid., annex II.

[165] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[166] Ibid., annex II.

[167] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[168] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[169] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[170] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[171] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling also its resolution 70/202 of 22 December 2015 and all relevant previous resolutions,

Reaffirming that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development, and recognizing the ownership and leadership of small island developing States in overcoming some of these challenges, while stressing that, in the absence of international cooperation, achieving success will remain difficult,

Acknowledging that climate change and sea level rise continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for some, represent the gravest threat to their survival and viability,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[172] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[173] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming that oceans and seas, along with coastal areas, form an essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are intrinsically linked to sustainable development, including that of small island developing States, and reaffirming also that healthy, productive and resilient oceans and coasts are critical for, inter alia, poverty eradication, access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food, livelihoods, economic development and essential ecosystem services, including carbon sequestration, and represent an important element of identity and culture for the people of small island developing States,

Welcoming the launch of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework and the progress made, including the convening of its steering committee on partnerships for small island developing States, the holding of an informal stocktaking partnership dialogue on 18 July 2016 during the high-level political forum on sustainable development and of the first global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue on 22 September 2016, during the general debate of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, and the launch of a standardized partnership reporting template in June 2016,

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network to share best practices and lessons learned among business sectors in small island developing States, and its contribution to the sustainable development of small island developing States, and encouraging its coherence with the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework,

Welcoming the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the theme "Making the 2030 Agenda deliver for small island developing States, building on the Samoa Pathway", held on 14 July 2016, and recalling resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, entitled "Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level",

Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Samoa Pathway,

Recognizing also that, in spite of the considerable efforts of small island developing States and the mobilization of their limited resources, their progress in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy has been uneven, that some have regressed economically and that a number of significant challenges remain,

Welcoming the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation,

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[172] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[173] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 69/15 of 14 November 2014 and 70/202;[174]

2. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[167] and urges its speedy and effective implementation, as well as effective monitoring, follow-up and review;

3. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Conference and the fulfilment of the provisions on all means of implementation, as contained in the Samoa Pathway;

4. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek solutions, including additional ones, to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

5. *Recalls* the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the Samoa Pathway and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[175] as well as the outcome documents of all related United Nations conferences and processes;

6. *Welcomes* the decision in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016 to convene the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017;

7. *Also welcomes* the progress made on developing an action programme to address the food and nutrition challenges facing small island developing States, facilitated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, as requested in the Samoa Pathway;

8. *Further welcomes* the many ongoing initiatives and programmes in support of the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States and of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages other initiatives in this regard;

9. *Acknowledges* in this regard that small island developing States are committed to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and are mobilizing resources at the national and regional levels to that effect, despite their limited resource base, and calls upon the international community to assist and support small island developing States in the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including by integrating its provisions into their national and regional policies and development frameworks;

10. *Urges* all partners to integrate the Samoa Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure its effective follow-up and implementation;

11. *Recalls* the need to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and their follow-up processes;

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[174] A/71/267.

[175] Resolution 70/1.

12. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners to continue to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement national sustainable development strategies and programmes by incorporating the priorities and activities of small island developing States into their relevant strategic and programmatic frameworks, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process, at both the national and regional levels, in line with their mandates and overall priorities;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations system to support the efforts of small island developing States to strengthen their cooperation on enhancing action on adaptation to climate change;

14. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 12 of its resolution 70/202, in that regard takes note of the initial findings of the comprehensive review by the Joint Inspection Unit of United Nations system support for small island developing States,[176] and requests the Joint Inspection Unit to urgently submit the complete results of the review before the end of 2016 for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

16. *Also recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 70/202, notes that the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall devote adequate time at its 2017 meeting and at its future meetings to continue to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States and the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and encourages the high-level political forum to devote sufficient attention to these discussions, bearing in mind that small island developing States are a special case for sustainable development, as well as to lessons learned from the follow-up and review processes of previous conferences on small island developing States and their outcome documents;

17. *Further recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 70/299, and urges that effective measures be taken to reduce the reporting burden on small island developing States through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

18. *Urges* the international community to support small island developing States in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, in line with provisions of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, as appropriate to national contexts, with a view to supporting the implementation, follow-up and review of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;

19. *Decides* to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, with a view to generating renewed political will and commitment, assessing the progress made, lessons learned, trends, gaps and new and emerging challenges, as well as mobilizing further action to accelerate implementation, and for this purpose also decides to convene a one-day high-level review, at United Nations Headquarters in September 2019, as part of its seventy-fourth session, which will result in a concise, action-oriented and intergovernmentally agreed political declaration;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the implementation of the present resolution and, in preparing that report, to consult with Member States as well as the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and regional commissions, as appropriate, taking into account the work carried out by the United Nations system, as well as all relevant national, regional and subregional organizations, with a view to taking stock and analysing progress;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", unless otherwise agreed.

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[176] See A/71/324.

RESOLUTION 71/226

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.3, para. 14)[177]

71/226. Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/204 of 22 December 2015 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration[178] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[179]

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[180] Agenda 21,[181] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[182] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[183] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[184] and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[185] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Reiterating the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

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[177] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[178] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[179] Ibid., annex II.

[180] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[181] Ibid., annex II.

[182] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[183] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[184] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[185] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

Noting the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[186]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[187] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change to prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to ensure resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems,

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Welcoming the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and recognizing the importance of achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,[188]

Noting its resolution 70/203 of 22 December 2015, entitled "World Tsunami Awareness Day",

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 70/204;[189]

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[178] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[179]

3. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

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[186] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[187] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[188] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[189] A/71/230.

4. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* focused action within and across sectors by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely, understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and in order to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

6. *Welcomes* the updated United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, in line with the Sendai Framework, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take it into consideration in the coordination and elucidation of their respective activities, in the context of sustainable development and according to the Sendai Framework;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets agreed in the Sendai Framework;

8. *Recognizes* in this regard, given the shorter time frame for achieving target (*e*) of the Sendai Framework by 2020, the scale of action needed for the development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, such as through the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases, national and local risk profiles and available capacities, as well as the conduct of risk assessments, and reaffirms the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

9. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to continue working on data collection and the development of baselines on current losses, including working towards the collection of disaggregated information and historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

10. *Encourages* Member States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[190] where it is reflected across several Goals and targets;

11. *Reiterates its strong encouragement* of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[191] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[187] and the Sendai Framework, while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

12. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

13. *Looks forward* to the outcome of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction, recognizes the active engagement of Member States as well as the support from the United Nations system and other stakeholders in its work, and stresses the need for the

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[190] Resolution 70/1.

[191] Resolution 69/313, annex.

outcome to be developed in coherence with the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators to ensure feasibility and consistency in implementation, collection of data and reporting;

14. *Recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and also recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels;

15. *Encourages* Governments to promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes;

16. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

17. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructure and increasing the overall capacity of health systems reduces overall disaster risk and builds disaster resilience;

18. *Welcomes* the convening of the upcoming fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017;

19. *Also welcomes* the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction held in 2016, and looks forward to those to be held in 2017, which will inform the discussions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;

20. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk;

21. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

22. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

23. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/227

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.3, para. 14)[192]

71/227. Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/218 of 19 December 2014 and 70/110 of 23 December 2015 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000, and taking into consideration all other relevant resolutions,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind,

Noting also that technological developments and international cooperation have enhanced the capabilities for the prediction of the El Niño phenomenon and thereby the potential for the preventive actions that may be taken to reduce its negative impacts,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration[193] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[194] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[195] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[196] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[197] which includes an update on El Niño/La Niña conditions and a section on addressing the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon,

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[192] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[193] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[194] Ibid., annex II.

[195] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[196] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[197] A/71/230.

Conscious of the importance of enhanced concerted efforts by the World Meteorological Organization with relevant national, regional and international monitoring centres to deliver, effectively and in a timely manner, more regionally focused climate services as well as training and capacity-building related to El Niño/La Niña, and noting the role of the International Research Centre on El Niño at Guayaquil, Ecuador, in this regard,

Mindful that, according to the El Niño/La Niña update of 28 July 2016 of the World Meteorological Organization, the strong 2015/16 El Niño ended in May 2016,

Recognizing that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities,

Noting with concern that the El Niño phenomenon has posed a serious challenge to the hard-fought development gains of developing countries, particularly in terms of diverting resources from national development plans and programmes,

Noting with concern also that, as a consequence of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, heavy rains, floods and, conversely, cold waves and heatwaves, wildfires, coral bleaching and drought episodes adversely affected countries and peoples, in particular in Latin America, Eastern and Southern Africa and South-East Asia and the Pacific, including by increasing the spread of diseases and the number of people displaced, affecting food security and infrastructure and hampering the ability of those countries and peoples to achieve sustainable development,

Noting with appreciation that some countries were able to partly reduce the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon by designing and implementing government-led early action plans that included the establishment of resilient multipurpose dams and other infrastructure projects, reinforcing existing social and productive infrastructure, revitalizing health services to combat vector-borne diseases, and strengthening social support services, safety nets, appropriate and preventive agriculture practices, income-generating public works and welfare programmes,

Acknowledging the importance of humanitarian assistance provided to countries that were most affected by the adverse effects of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon, while stressing the need to transcend this approach in favour of a multidisciplinary and articulated development-based response to strengthen national institutional capacities and effectively address these adverse consequences,

Noting the appointments of the Special Envoys on El Niño and Climate by the Secretary-General and their role in calling attention to the severe short- and long-term impacts of the 2015/16 El Niño, and looking forward to further work in this regard,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Noting the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017,

1. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[193] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[194]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

3. *Recognizes* the continued efforts by the Governments of Ecuador and Spain, the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to support the International Research Centre on El Niño, and encourages them and other members of the international community to continue to make such contributions for the advancement of the Centre;

4. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken so far to strengthen the International Research Centre on El Niño, through collaboration with international monitoring centres, including national oceanographic institutions, and encourages further efforts to enhance regional and international recognition of and support for the Centre and to develop tools for decision makers and government authorities aimed at reducing the impact of the El Niño phenomenon;

5. *Notes* the assistance provided to Governments by the International Research Centre on El Niño and by other Governments and institutions in the development of early warning systems that allow for the implementation of anticipatory risk reduction measures that contribute to the reduction of the potential human, economic and environmental impacts of the phenomenon;

6. *Recognizes* the technical and scientific support of the World Meteorological Organization in producing regionally coordinated monthly and seasonal forecasts, in particular its establishment of a consensus mechanism for the development of updates on El Niño/La Niña conditions, which receives contributions from several climate centres, and also recognizes various initiatives undertaken by different countries to strengthen national and regional capacities;

7. *Encourages* the World Meteorological Organization, in this regard, to continue to strengthen collaboration and the exchange of data and information with relevant institutions;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries that were affected by the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon;

9. *Encourages* responses to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon not only to address the immediate needs but also to support longer-term sustainable development and build the resilience of livelihoods, especially in the agricultural sectors and rural areas;

10. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals to consider discussing, at the second and third annual multi-stakeholder forums on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, recommendations on how to better identify requirements and options for the adequate provision of science, technology and innovation elements to enable countries to address the impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon, as appropriate;

12. *Encourages* the second and third Global Infrastructure Forums to identify and address, as appropriate, infrastructure and capacity gaps and needs to enhance preparedness and promote early actions in countries affected by the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon;

13. *Requests* the United Nations system, through existing coordination mechanisms and platforms, to take into consideration, where appropriate, the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon when designing risk reduction and development strategies, in particular in the context of the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-Informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development;

14. *Encourages* interested Member States, with the support of the United Nations development system, to develop integrated, coherent and comprehensive government-led strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon and to collaborate in support of affected countries;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions, under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", a section on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to consider at its seventy-third session the topic "Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon" under the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/228

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.4, para. 8)[198]

71/228. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013, 69/220 of 19 December 2014 and 70/205 of 22 December 2015, and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also in full the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[199] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,[200] acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges in terms of global annual emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020 and aggregate emission pathways,

Recalling further the Paris Agreement, which, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Noting with appreciation the high-level signature ceremony for the Paris Agreement, held on 22 April 2016, and the high-level event for the entry into force of the Agreement, held on 21 September 2016,

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority for developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and bearing in mind that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Welcoming the convening of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016, and welcoming also the Marrakech Action Proclamation,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[201] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[202] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[203] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[204] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[205] the outcomes of the thirteenth to twenty-first sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and of the third to eleventh sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the

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[198] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[200] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[201] Resolution 55/2.

[202] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[203] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[204] Resolution 60/1.

[205] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,[206] the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016,[207] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[208] the Mauritius Declaration[209] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[210] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[211] the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[212] the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[213] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[214]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Taking note of the Green Climate Fund and its successful and timely initial resource mobilization process, making it the largest dedicated climate fund, and its approval of 1.17 billion United States dollars in funding as a milestone towards achieving the aspirational goal of approving 2.5 billion dollars in funding, which will help to deliver outcomes, in developing countries, to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, and reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations,

Noting the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[215] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[216] as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

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[206] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[207] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[208] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[209] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[210] Ibid., annex II.

[211] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[212] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[213] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[214] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[215] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[216] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Noting also the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to address the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Recognizing the substantial risks posed by climate change to the oceans and marine ecosystems, and in this regard noting the convening of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017,

Taking note of the decision of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization at its thirty-ninth session to implement, as part of a comprehensive basket of measures, a global market-based measure in the form of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation to address annual increases in total carbon dioxide emissions from international civil aviation above 2020 levels, taking into account special circumstances and respective capabilities,

Welcoming the recent adoption, at the twenty-eighth meeting of the parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,[217] of the amendment, as agreed in Kigali, to phase down hydrofluorocarbons, as a major contribution to the aims of the Paris Agreement,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion and ocean acidification, further threatening food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and in this regard emphasizes that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Welcomes* the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of France in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015;

3. *Also welcomes* the early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[200] and encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[199] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible;

4. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

5. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions should reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

6. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken by the Lima-Paris Action Agenda, and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

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[217] Ibid., vol. 1522, No. 26369.

7. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19,[218] to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13[219] and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[220]

9. *Recognizes* the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, and in that regard takes note of decisions 2/CP.19[218] and 2/CP.20[221] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, on the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, and decision 1/CP.21,[222] in which the Paris Agreement was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-first session;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Morocco of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016;

11. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Fiji to host the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Bonn, Germany, in 2017;

12. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular;

13. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and congratulates the previous Executive Secretary for her achievements;

14. *Recalls* its request that the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to paragraph 96 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[205] submit an action plan for the Secretariat that will be designed to work within existing procurement rules and policies aimed at integrating sustainable development practices into its operations and facilities management, building on existing efforts and promoting cost-effectiveness, and in accordance with legislative frameworks, including financial rules and regulations, while maintaining accountability to Member States, with the specific goal of a United Nations that does not, through its operations or facilities management, have a negative impact on the climate, as soon as possible, or by 2020, if practicable, and requests that the aforementioned action plan be submitted before the end of its seventy-first session;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

16. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

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[218] See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1.

[219] See FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1.

[220] A/71/216, sect. I.

[221] See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2.

[222] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1.

RESOLUTION 71/229

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.5, para. 7)[223]

71/229. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/206 of 22 December 2015, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[224]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[225] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[226] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the international community committed to combating desertification, restoring degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and striving to achieve a land-degradation-neutral world by 2030,

Taking note of resolution 2/24 of 27 May 2016, entitled "Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands", adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its second session,[227]

Noting that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including Goal 15 and target 15.3, would serve as an accelerator to ending poverty and hunger, tackling inequality, empowering women and stimulating economic growth,

Noting also that combating desertification, land degradation and drought, including through sustainable land management, can contribute to easing forced migration flows influenced by a number of factors, including economic, social, security and environmental concerns, which can, in turn, reduce current and potential fighting over resources in degraded areas,

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[223] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[224] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[225] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[226] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[227] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

Acknowledging that striving to achieve land degradation neutrality would significantly contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development through the rehabilitation, restoration, conservation and sustainable management of land resources, and that this could potentially involve the development of voluntary national targets, in accordance with the specific national circumstances,

Noting that desertification, land degradation, drought, human activities[228] and climate change are closely related and that, if not addressed, they would pose a serious challenge to sustainable development for all countries, in particular developing countries,

Emphasizing the need to promote sustainable land management, sustainable forest management and the restoration of degraded land in order to combat desertification, land degradation and drought,

Noting the scientific findings of the third Scientific Conference of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, on the interlinkages between desertification and/or land degradation and climate change and their effects on human well-being,

Recognizing that healthy grassland and rangeland ecosystems can play a significant role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 70/206 on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[229]

2. *Invites* parties affected by desertification, land degradation and drought to scale up their efforts, using available internal and external resources, for the implementation of their national action programmes, as appropriate;

3. *Encourages* developed countries party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[224] to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve land degradation neutrality, by providing substantial financial resources, facilitated access to appropriate technology and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

4. *Also encourages* developed countries party to the Convention, and invites other countries in a position to do so, multilateral financial institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations and technical and financial institutions:

(*a*) To provide scientific, technical and financial assistance to help affected countries party to the Convention requesting assistance to set and achieve voluntary land degradation neutrality targets and to implement sustainable land management practices and land degradation neutrality initiatives;

(*b*) To establish equitable partnerships that encourage responsible and sustainable investments and practices by the private sector, which contribute to achieving land degradation neutrality that supports the health and productivity of the land and its people;

5. *Reiterates* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development reaffirmed women's vital role and their full and equal participation and leadership in all areas of sustainable development, and in this regard invites donors and international organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the international financial institutions, regional banks and major groups, including the private sector, to fully integrate their commitments and their considerations on gender equality and women's empowerment and to ensure

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[228] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480, article I.

[229] A/71/216, sect. II.

the participation of women and effective gender mainstreaming in their decision-making in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, ensuring that women and men have equal access to and are equal beneficiaries of resources, capacity-building, information and technology and that their needs and contributions are equally taken into account;

6. *Invites* Member States to take action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and reaching voluntary targets on land degradation neutrality, in accordance with specific national circumstances and development priorities, in line with decisions adopted at the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and welcomes the fact that a large number of Member States are already undertaking efforts to do so;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the further development and implementation of scientifically based, sound and socially inclusive methods and indicators for monitoring and assessing the extent of desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as the importance of efforts under way to promote scientific research in accordance with the Convention, and in this respect invites the secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[226] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[230] within their respective mandates, to collaborate on their activities whenever they are related to desertification, land degradation and drought;

8. *Recognizes* the benefits gained from cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, while also taking account of dust storms and sandstorms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard likewise recognizes the need for further cooperation between States and relevant organizations in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

9. *Notes* the holding of the first African Drought Conference in Windhoek from 15 to 19 August 2016, which adopted a common strategic framework for a drought-resilient and prepared Africa and the Windhoek Declaration for Enhancing Resilience to Drought in Africa;

10. *Also notes* the direction provided by the parties to the Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to the secretariat of the Convention, as the lead organization for combating desertification, land degradation and drought, to take the initiative and invite other relevant agencies and stakeholders, such as United Nations agencies, international organizations, financial institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, to seek cooperation to achieve target 15.3 of Sustainable Development Goal 15;

11. *Reiterates* that degraded land, if recovered, would, inter alia, contribute to restoring natural resources, thus potentially improving food security and nutrition in the affected countries, and in the process could, inter alia, contribute to the absorption of carbon emissions;

12. *Takes note* of the action already taken by the secretariat of the Convention in leading and coordinating global partnership processes relevant to the voluntary land degradation neutrality target setting programme at the national level to be coordinated by Governments, in accordance with their specific national circumstances, and the development of methodology and data options by the inter-agency advisory group to contribute to the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa", unless otherwise agreed.

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[230] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

RESOLUTION 71/230

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.6, para. 7)[231]

71/230. Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 64/203 of 21 December 2009, 65/161 of 20 December 2010, 66/202 of 22 December 2011, 67/212 of 21 December 2012, 68/214 of 20 December 2013, 69/222 of 19 December 2014 and 70/207 of 22 December 2015 and its previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[232]

Recalling also the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992,[233] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[234] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[235] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[236] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals convened by the President of the General Assembly,[237]

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[238] and, inter alia, the commitments concerning biodiversity contained therein,

Reaffirming also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[239] and its principles,

Reaffirming further its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

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[231] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[232] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[233] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[234] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[235] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[236] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[237] Resolution 68/6.

[238] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[239] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[240] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[241] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling that the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being,

Recognizing that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication and the improvement of human well-being and a major factor underpinning the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Recalling that, in its resolution 65/161, the General Assembly declared 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,[242]

Recognizing that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities make an important contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and that their wider application can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Taking note of the decision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its twelfth meeting entitled "Article 8 (*j*) and related provisions",[243]

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[244] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[245]

Recognizing the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and reaffirming the need for the full participation of women at all levels of policymaking and implementation for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

Recognizing also the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[246] an international agreement that stands at the intersection between trade, the environment and development in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and in ensuring that no species entering into international trade is threatened with extinction,[247] and that should contribute to tangible benefits for local people, stressing the importance of basing the listing of species on agreed criteria, recognizing the economic, social and environmental impacts of poaching and of illicit trafficking in wildlife, where firm and strengthened action needs to be taken on both the supply and demand sides, and emphasizing in this regard the importance of effective international cooperation among relevant multilateral environmental agreements and international organizations,

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[240] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[241] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[242] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2, annex.

[243] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, decision XII/12.

[244] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[245] Resolution 69/2.

[246] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[247] See resolution Conf. 16.7 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Noting the contribution of the secretariat of and parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation,

Noting also the convening of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as decided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017,

Noting further the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its tenth meeting, of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[248] and acknowledging the role of access to genetic resources and equitable benefit-sharing arising from their utilization in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability and, thereby, to the achievement of sustainable development,

Noting that 91 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed and that 88 States and 1 regional economic integration organization that are parties to the Convention have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya Protocol, and noting also in this regard that the Protocol entered into force on 12 October 2014,

Noting also the Nagoya Protocol, the objective of which is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components,

Noting further that 195 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention and that 169 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[249]

Noting that 50 States and 1 regional economic integration organization have signed and that 36 States and 1 regional economic integration organization that are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[250]

Recalling the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention,[251] as well as decision X/3, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting,[252] on the review of its implementation, and the targets for resource mobilization, under Aichi Target 20 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision XII/3,[253]

Noting the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on

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[248] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

[249] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

[250] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17, annex, decision BS-V/11.

[251] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11.

[252] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

[253] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

Biosafety and the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all held in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in 2014,

Noting also the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2016, as well as the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, all under the theme "Mainstreaming biodiversity for well-being", and recognizing that the outcomes of the meetings may contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[254]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity[248] on 12 October 2014;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Gangwon Declaration on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development, adopted at the high-level segment of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

4. *Encourages* the respective parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to take concrete measures towards achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity[232] and the Protocols thereto, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[249] and the Nagoya Protocol, requests the parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to coherently and efficiently implement the obligations and commitments under the Convention and the Protocols, and in this regard emphasizes the need to comprehensively address at all levels the difficulties that may impede their implementation;

5. *Recognizes* that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction and to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by adding resilience to fragile ecosystems and making them less vulnerable;

6. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 16 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as well as of decision XI/2, entitled "Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related capacity-building support to parties",[255] and also takes note of the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;[253]

7. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the secretariat of the Convention, parties to the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in conjunction with United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, as well as other entities, in organizing capacity-building workshops to support countries in the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with a view to enhancing capacity and addressing the need for human, technical and financial resources to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020[242] and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,[242] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting, in particular for developing countries;

8. *Urges* parties to promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations, taking into account the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity,[256] in developing, implementing and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional and subnational biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments in implementing the three objectives of the Convention;

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[254] A/71/216, sect. III.

[255] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I.

[256] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, decision XII/7, annex.

9. *Calls upon* Governments and all stakeholders to take appropriate measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, as well as ecosystems that provide essential services, into relevant programmes and policies at all levels, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and calls upon parties and stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation measures for the fulfilment of obligations contained in the Convention;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 by the parties to the Convention;

12. *Recognizes* that parties to the Convention have reiterated that resources, financial, human and technical, need to be mobilized from all sources, and that this should be balanced with the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, stresses the need for further consideration of the evaluation of all resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved, in this regard welcomes the decision of the parties to the Convention on an overall substantial increase in total biodiversity-related funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan from a variety of sources, including national and international resource mobilization, international cooperation and the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms, and takes note of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;

13. *Invites* countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

14. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Nagoya Protocol, and invites the Executive Secretary of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to continue to support capacity-building and development activities to support the ratification and implementation of the Protocol;

15. *Also invites* parties to the Convention to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

16. *Invites* parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;[250]

17. *Takes note* of the work done by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (*j*) and Related Provisions, and in this regard invites the secretariat of the Convention, through the Secretary-General, to report on the progress made when reporting on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly;

18. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[257] as part of national implementation plans for the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular all biodiversity-related Goals and targets;

19. *Takes note* of the fourth plenary meeting of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, which aims to provide the best available policy-relevant information on biodiversity and ecosystem services to assist decision makers, including through its summary for policymakers of the assessment report on pollinators, pollination and food production and its summary for policymakers of the methodological assessment report on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the engagement of the private sector and other stakeholders in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in the achievement of the biodiversity targets, invites them to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities, and in this regard stresses the importance of the ongoing work of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity;

21. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat

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[257] Resolution 70/1.

Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[258] and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[241] (the Rio conventions) and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, acknowledges the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of those conventions, recognizes the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives, in this regard notes the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as reflected in its resolution 2/17 of 27 May 2016,[259] and encourages the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in this regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind the respective independent legal status and mandates of those instruments;

22. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the outcome of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and difficulties encountered in the process of their implementation, and decides to include, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity" in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/231

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.7, para. 9)[260]

71/231. Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997,[261] the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000[262] and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,[263]

Reaffirming also its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Recalling its resolutions 67/213 of 21 December 2012, 68/215 of 20 December 2013 and 69/223 of 19 December 2014,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[264] and its principles,

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[258] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[259] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[260] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[261] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[262] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[263] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/65/25), annex I, decision SS.XI/9.

[264] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

Taking into account Agenda 21[265] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[266]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[267] and the outcome document of the special event of the General Assembly to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[268]

Recalling also the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[269]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[270] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[271] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Taking note of the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

Committed also to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,

Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget,

Reaffirming the commitments, as contained in the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi from 23 to

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[265] Ibid., annex II.

[266] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[267] Resolution 60/1.

[268] Resolution 68/6.

[269] UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex.

[270] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[271] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

27 June 2014,[272] inter alia, to ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled "The future we want",[273] and noting the follow-up on paragraph 88, subparagraphs (*a*) to (*h*), of the outcome document, including through General Assembly resolution 67/213,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, in Nairobi, from 23 to 27 May 2016, and takes note of the report on the session and the resolutions and decisions contained therein;[274]

2. *Recognizes* the commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[275] in an integrated manner, as reflected in its resolution 2/5 of 27 May 2016;[276]

3. *Encourages* the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly to convey the main messages agreed upon by the Environment Assembly at its sessions during the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate, taking into account the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as General Assembly resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016;

4. *Notes* the relevance of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme to the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, to be held in June 2017, and encourages its secretariat to provide the necessary inputs, as appropriate;

5. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support to developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building[260] adopted by the Programme;

6. *Also reiterates* the continuing need for the United Nations Environment Programme to conduct up-to-date, comprehensive, scientifically based and policy-relevant global environmental assessments, in close consultation with Member States, in order to support decision-making processes at all levels;

7. *Notes* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide options to secure the participation of developing countries in the Environment Assembly;[277]

8. *Urges* all Member States and other stakeholders in a position to do so to increase voluntary funding to the United Nations Environment Programme, including to the Environment Fund, notes the need for continued efforts to broaden the donor base and mobilize resources from all sources, including stakeholders, and welcomes the increased support received in this regard;

9. *Takes note* of resolution 2/22 adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 27 May 2016 on the review of the cycle of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme,[276] in which it decided to hold its regular sessions in odd-numbered years commencing with its third session, in 2017, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme", unless otherwise agreed.

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[272] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex, resolution 1/1.

[273] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[274] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25).

[275] Resolution 70/1.

[276] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[277] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex, resolution 1/15.

RESOLUTION 71/232

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.8, para. 7)[278]

71/232. Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[279] Agenda 21,[280] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[281] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[282] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[283]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[284]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009, 65/164 of 20 December 2010, 66/204 of 22 December 2011, 67/214 of 21 December 2012, 68/216 of 20 December 2013, 69/224 of 19 December 2014 and 70/208 of 22 December 2015 on Harmony with Nature and its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling also the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[285]

Noting with appreciation the virtual dialogue on Harmony with Nature among, inter alia, experts on Earth jurisprudence, including the participation of those who have been active in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly, held from 22 April to 22 June 2016 and hosted on the website on Harmony with Nature, to commemorate International Mother Earth Day and to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in harmony with nature, noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

Recognizing that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and expressing the conviction that, in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature,

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[278] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[279] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[280] Ibid., annex II.

[281] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[282] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[283] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[284] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[285] Resolution 37/7, annex.

Noting that, in promoting a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development in harmony with nature, Earth system science plays a significant role,

Expressing concern about documented environmental degradation, potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific knowledge on the effects of human activities on the Earth systems, with the aim of promoting and ensuring an equitable, balanced and sustainable relationship with the Earth,

Noting the Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[286]

Recognizing that a number of countries consider Mother Earth the source of all life and nourishment and that these countries consider Mother Earth and humankind to be an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings,

Noting that in recent years there have been many initiatives on sustainable development governance, including policy documents on living well in harmony with nature,

Taking note of the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,[287]

Recognizing that gross domestic product was not designed as an indicator for measuring environmental degradation resulting from human activity and the need to overcome this limitation with regard to sustainable development and the work carried out in this regard,

Recognizing also the uneven availability of basic statistical data under the three dimensions of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity,

Reaffirming that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations, indigenous peoples and indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods and therefore contribute to global efforts and initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing further the work undertaken by civil society, academia and scientists with regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts, along with those of Governments and private sector organizations, to devise more sustainable models and methods for production and consumption,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the experts' summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature among, inter alia, experts on Earth jurisprudence,[288] as well as of the hosting of the virtual dialogue, held from 22 April to 22 June 2016, on the website on Harmony with Nature;

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[286] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[287] IPBES/2/17.

[288] See A/71/266.

2. *Invites* Member States to consider existing studies and, as appropriate, the findings and recommendations of the reports of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature,[289] of the experts' summary report of the virtual dialogue, addressing Earth jurisprudence, and of the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature in the promotion of the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through harmony with nature;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the seventy-first session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue, to be held at the plenary meetings to be convened during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day on 21 April 2017, with the participation of Member States, United Nations organizations, independent experts and other stakeholders, to discuss the recommendations of the experts' summary report, so as to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world and to improve the ethical basis of the relationship between humankind and the Earth in the context of sustainable development;

4. *Decides* to continue observing International Mother Earth Day annually on 22 April, requests the Secretary-General to provide continuing support, and encourages Member States to observe the International Day at the national level;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the agreement between the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,[290] invites Member States to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature under the trust fund of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, aiming, inter alia, at the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, and invites relevant stakeholders to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use the website, maintained by the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and to advance the integration of interdisciplinary scientific work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge and on existing national legislation;

7. *Calls for* holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development, in its three dimensions, that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems;

8. *Invites* States, as appropriate:

(*a*) To further build up a knowledge network in order to advance a holistic conceptualization of sustainable development in its three dimensions to identify different economic approaches that reflect the drivers and values of living in harmony with nature, relying on current scientific information to achieve sustainable development, and to facilitate support for and recognition of the fundamental interconnections between humankind and nature;

(*b*) To promote harmony with the Earth, including as found in indigenous cultures, to learn from those cultures and to support and promote efforts being made from the national level down to the local community level to reflect the protection of nature;

9. *Encourages* all countries to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic national statistical data on the three dimensions of sustainable development, and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to assist the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical support;

10. *Recognizes* the need for broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard notes the ongoing work of the Statistical Commission on a work programme to develop broader measures of progress and to conduct a technical review of existing efforts in this area;[291]

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[289] A/65/314, A/66/302, A/67/317, A/68/325 and Corr.1, A/69/322 and A/70/268.

[290] Available from www.harmonywithnatureun.org/trustfund.html.

[291] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 4* (E/2013/24), chap. I, sect. C, decision 44/114.

11. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/233

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.9, para. 9)[292]

71/233. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999, 55/205 of 20 December 2000, 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007, 64/206 of 21 December 2009, 66/206 of 22 December 2011, 69/225 of 19 December 2014 and 70/201 of 22 December 2015, as well as its resolutions 65/151 of 20 December 2010 on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All and 67/215 of 21 December 2012, in which it decided to declare 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome[293] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[294]

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[295] and Agenda 21[296] and the principles set out therein, and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[297] and the outcome documents of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[298] the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[299] and the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, entitled "Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024",[300]

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[292] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[293] Resolution 60/1.

[294] Resolution 65/1.

[295] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[296] Ibid., annex II.

[297] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[301] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[302] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also Expo 2017, to be held in Astana, on the theme "Future energy",

Reaffirming that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels and across all sectors for the achievement of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the increased use and promotion of new and renewable sources of energy for sustainable development could make a significant contribution towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Highlighting the importance of the empowerment of developing countries to achieve universal access through the rapid expansion of affordable sustainable energy worldwide,

Deeply concerned that 2.7 billion people in developing countries, especially in rural areas, rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating, while noting the disproportionate health impact and workload on women and children, that 1.2 billion people are without access to electricity and that, even when energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to pay for them,

Recognizing that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that this will include the mobilization of financial resources as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed,

Welcoming global multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as Sustainable Energy for All, which has given strong momentum to the promotion of renewable energy, and the initiatives of the Global Climate Action Agenda, noting that such partnerships can contribute to reaching the objective of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

Noting with appreciation the work of the International Renewable Energy Agency, which facilitates the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy,

Stressing the need for a coherent, integrated approach to energy issues and the promotion of synergies across the global energy agenda for sustainable development, with a focus on eradicating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Stressing also the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,[303] calls for the rapid implementation of the strategic objectives as defined in the global plan of action for the

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[298] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[299] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[300] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[301] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[302] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[303] A/71/320.

Decade, as described in a previous report of the Secretary-General on the topic,[304] and also takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy;[305]

2. *Also takes note* of the International Renewable Energy Agency work programme and budget for 2016–2017, and encourages the Agency to continue to support its members in the achievement of their renewable energy objectives;

3. *Emphasizes* that universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is an integral part of poverty eradication and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[306]

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to improve access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and environmentally sound energy services and resources for sustainable development, and takes into consideration the diversity of situations, national policies and specific needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Stresses* the need to increase the share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global energy mix, as well as the rate of improvement in energy efficiency, as an important contribution to achieving universal access to sustainable modern energy services, and recognizes that the activities of countries in broader energy-related matters are prioritized according to their specific challenges, capacities and circumstances, including their energy mix and energy systems;

6. *Emphasizes* that improving energy efficiency, increasing the share of renewable energy and promoting cleaner and energy-efficient technologies are important for sustainable development, and also emphasizes the importance of promoting energy conservation, developing energy-saving technologies and products and establishing effective mechanisms to improve the efficient use of energy-related resources;

7. *Also emphasizes* the necessity of establishing a modern energy system that is clean, low-carbon, climate-resilient, safe and efficient, includes renewable energy sources, as appropriate, and delivers energy in line with needs so as to promote affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

8. *Underscores* the importance of access to cleaner and more efficient cooking and heating methods, welcomes ongoing efforts, and in this regard calls for the promotion of an enabling environment at the national and international levels for the promotion of the usage of sustainable, cleaner and more efficient cooking and heating methods, in all countries, in particular developing countries;

9. *Emphasizes* the potential of sustainable energy use to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, recognizes that increasing the deployment of renewable energy is a component of many countries' nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[301] and urges effective and timely support for the full implementation of those contributions, as applicable;

10. *Notes* that the impacts of climate change can also threaten access to and the supply of energy, and also notes the importance of increasing the resilience of the energy sector to climate change, in particular regarding sources of renewable energy such as hydropower, among others;

11. *Welcomes* the significant cost reductions associated with renewable energy, and emphasizes that large-scale deployment of technologies has been uneven and that support is required to realize the technologies' potential, along with appropriate policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels, with Governments working in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;

12. *Invites* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, to continue ongoing efforts and take further action to provide financial resources, as appropriate, to support efforts aimed at the development of the energy sector in developing countries and countries with economies in transition on the basis of environment-friendly, low-carbon and climate-resilient new and renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, noting the potential catalytic effect of concessional and other finance and taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based

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[304] See A/69/395, sect. III.

[305] A/71/220.

[306] Resolution 70/1.

economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the levels of investment necessary to expand renewable energy deployment and development, including beyond urban areas;

13. *Encourages* the development, dissemination and diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and highlights the importance of integrating sustainable energy in the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

14. *Stresses* the importance of strategies and contributions by all relevant stakeholders to multi-stakeholder partnerships in ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and encourages coordination and collaboration between the United Nations and relevant multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as Sustainable Energy for All;

15. *Recognizes* the catalytic effect of capacity-building and technical assistance on sustainable energy deployment, and encourages existing and new efforts to enable Governments from developing countries and relevant stakeholders to plan, finance, implement and monitor sustainable energy projects to further strengthen their national institutions and capacities;

16. *Encourages* efforts by Governments aimed at creating and developing an enabling environment at all levels to ensure the promotion of energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable sources of energy;

17. *Also encourages* the development of viable market-oriented strategies that could result in further rapid reductions in the cost of new and renewable sources of energy and could further increase the competitiveness of those technologies, including through the adoption, as appropriate, of public policies for research, development and market deployment, including rationalizing inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances;

18. *Recognizes* that sustainable energy access and deployment can both improve and be accelerated by gender equality and women's empowerment, and calls upon Governments, the United Nations development system and other stakeholders to increase educational and capacity-building programmes for women in the sector, to promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design and implementation of energy policies and programmes, to mainstream a gender perspective in such policies and programmes and to ensure women's full and equal access to and use of new, renewable and sustainable energy to enhance their economic empowerment, including employment and other income-generating opportunities;

19. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy resources, more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the sustainable use of traditional energy resources;

20. *Calls for* ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, as such services are an integral part of poverty eradication, human dignity, quality of life, economic opportunity, the combating of inequality, the promotion of health and the prevention of morbidity and mortality, access to education, clean drinking water and sanitation, food security, disaster risk reduction and resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental impact reduction, social inclusion and gender equality, including for persons affected by humanitarian crises;

21. *Welcomes* the expansion of renewable energy capacity additions, which are now greater than those of other energy power sources, as well as the net positive job contribution of renewables;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of expanding the use of renewable energy beyond the power sector, encourages further efforts to promote renewable energy use in industry, construction and infrastructure and in particular in the transport sector, in the context of sustainable development, including climate change, and calls for greater efforts and attention to those sectors, including through policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels in order to scale up new and renewable energy technologies and low-carbon technologies that can reduce negative environmental impacts, especially in the near term;

23. *Also recognizes* that current global progress in improving energy efficiency falls well below the pace necessary to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030;

24. *Encourages* the adoption of building performance codes and standards, the uptake of renewable energy, energy efficiency labelling, the retrofitting of existing buildings and public procurement policies on energy, among

other modalities as appropriate, as well as the prioritization of smart grid systems, district energy systems and community energy plans to improve synergies between renewable energy and energy efficiency;

25. *Calls for* national efforts to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and reaffirms its commitment to support subnational and local efforts, taking advantage of their direct control, where applicable, of local infrastructure and codes to foster uptake in end-use sectors, such as residential, commercial and industrial buildings, industry, transport, waste and sanitation;

26. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to use and promote an integrated resource planning and management approach in their energy strategies, which considers energy choices in the context of linked sectors, inter alia, water, air quality and food, taking into account national circumstances;

27. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the mobilization of stable and predictable financial resources and technical assistance for sustainable energy and to enhance the effectiveness, coordination and full utilization of appropriate international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make concrete proposals on the strengthening, through existing arrangements, of both inter-agency and intergovernmental coordination, and institutional support on energy issues, and to give appropriate consideration to progress on sustainable energy in the context of the 2030 Agenda in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

28. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, a report on the activities carried out to mark the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All and related activities within the United Nations system for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

30. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency and related sustainable practices in all United Nations facilities around the world;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/234

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/463/Add.10, para. 7)[307]

71/234. Sustainable mountain development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002, 58/216 of 23 December 2003, 59/238 of 22 December 2004, 60/198 of 22 December 2005, 62/196 of 19 December 2007, 64/205 of 21 December 2009, 66/205 of 22 December 2011 and 68/217 of 20 December 2013, entitled "Sustainable mountain development",

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[307] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, recognizes that economic and social development depends on the sustainable management of our planet's natural resources and confirms the determination of the international community to conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas and freshwater resources, as well as forests, mountains and drylands, and to protect biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife,

Recalling also its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, entitled "Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level",

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[308] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[309] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, inter alia, recognizes that developing countries with fragile mountainous ecosystems are among the countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change,

Recognizing the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[310] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the latter of which, inter alia, identifies a need for focused action in investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and in this regard considers it important to promote, at the national and local levels, the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessment, mapping and management into rural development planning and management of, inter alia, mountains, including through the identification of areas that are safe for human settlement, and at the same time preserving ecosystem functions that help to reduce risks,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[311] Agenda 21,[312] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[313] and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,[314]

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[308] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[309] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[310] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[311] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[312] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[313] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[314] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2, annex.

Recognizing that the benefits derived from mountain regions are essential for sustainable development and that mountain ecosystems play a crucial role in providing water and other essential resources and services to a large portion of the world's population,

Recognizing also that mountain ecosystems are highly vulnerable to the increasing adverse impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, deforestation and forest degradation, land-use change, land degradation and natural disasters, from which they recover slowly, and that mountain glaciers around the world are retreating and getting thinner, with increasing impacts on the environment, sustainable livelihoods and human well-being,

Acknowledging that, despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions and conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, the prevalence of poverty, food insecurity, social exclusion, environmental degradation and exposure to the risk of disasters is still high, particularly in developing countries, and access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation as well as to sustainable modern energy services continues to be limited,

Noting with deep concern that, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the number of mountain people in developing countries considered vulnerable to food insecurity increased by 30 per cent between 2000 and 2012, while the total world population of people who live in mountain areas increased by 16 per cent, and in this regard acknowledging the need to prioritize the special and urgent attention needed by mountain areas, including by focusing on the specific challenges they face and the opportunities they provide,

Noting the collaborative efforts of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (Mountain Partnership), launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development as a multi-stakeholder approach benefiting from the committed support of 57 Governments, 14 intergovernmental organizations, 210 organizations from major groups and 5 subnational authorities, and engaged in the promotion of sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in mountain regions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development;[315]

2. *Encourages* States to adopt a long-term vision and holistic approaches, including through incorporating mountain-specific policies into national sustainable development strategies, increase efforts to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions and address food insecurity and malnutrition, social exclusion, environmental degradation and disaster risk in mountain areas, taking into account that an integrated landscape approach which addresses natural resources management, including watershed and sustainable forest management as well as climate change resilience through multi-stakeholder approaches, can lead to the sustainable development of highland areas, the improvement of the livelihood of the local mountain communities and the sustainable use of mountain resources;

3. *Stresses* the special vulnerability of people living in mountain environments, often with limited access to health, education and economic systems and particularly at risk because of the negative impact of extreme natural phenomena, and invites States to strengthen cooperative action, with the effective involvement and sharing of knowledge and experience of all relevant stakeholders, including traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples living in mountain areas and knowledge of local mountain communities, by strengthening existing arrangements, agreements and centres of excellence for sustainable mountain development, as well as exploring new arrangements and agreements, as appropriate;

4. *Also stresses* the importance of innovative solutions for the diversification of livelihoods and income enhancement opportunities for local mountain communities, and in this regard encourages the promotion of innovative solutions and entrepreneurship within local mountain communities, as appropriate, to end poverty and hunger;

5. *Further stresses* that the traditions and knowledge of indigenous peoples living in mountain areas and the knowledge of local mountain communities, particularly in the fields of agriculture and medicine, should be fully considered, respected and promoted in development policy, strategies and programmes in mountain regions, and underlines the need to promote the full participation and involvement of local mountain communities in decisions that affect them and to integrate indigenous and local knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives, in consultation with and with the consent of the concerned indigenous peoples and local mountain communities, as appropriate;

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[315] A/71/256.

6. *Notes* that women are often the primary managers of mountain resources and the main actors in agriculture, underlines the need for improved access to resources, including land and economic and financial services, for women in mountain regions, as well as the need to strengthen the role of women in mountain regions in decision-making processes that affect their communities, cultures and environments, and encourages Governments and intergovernmental organizations to integrate the gender dimension, including data disaggregated by sex, in mountain development activities, programmes and projects;

7. *Recognizes* that mountains provide sensitive indications of climate change through phenomena such as modifications to biological diversity, the retreat of mountain glaciers, flash floods and changes in seasonal runoff, which are having an impact on major sources of freshwater in the world, and stresses the need to undertake actions to minimize the negative effects of these phenomena, promote adaptation measures and prevent the loss of biological diversity;

8. *Encourages* Member States to collect at the local, national and regional levels, as appropriate, disaggregated scientific data on mountain areas through systematic monitoring, including of trends of progress and change, based on relevant criteria, to support interdisciplinary research programmes and projects and to enhance an integrated and inclusive approach to decision-making and planning, and in this regard takes note of the consideration of the Mountain Green Cover Index in the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

9. *Encourages* Member States and all relevant stakeholders to continue to increase public awareness with respect to the economic benefits that mountains provide, not only to highland communities but also to a large portion of the world's population living in lowland areas;

10. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the contribution of sustainable tourism initiatives in mountain regions as a way to enhance environmental protection and generate socioeconomic benefits for local communities, including opportunities for productive employment, economic growth and the promotion of local culture and products;

11. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural and man-made disasters and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for societies throughout the world, and recognizes that disaster risk reduction requires a broader and more people-centred preventive approach and an all-of-society engagement and partnership, empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, especially the poorest, and also taking into account the vulnerability of people living in mountain environments, especially those in developing countries;

12. *Encourages* States to strengthen disaster risk governance, to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and to develop and improve disaster risk strategies in mountain regions, including a forward-looking perspective, in order to cope with such extreme events as rockfalls, avalanches, glacial lake outburst floods and landslides, which can be exacerbated by climate change and deforestation, consistent with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[316]

13. *Encourages*, in this regard, the increased involvement of local authorities, as well as other relevant stakeholders, in particular the rural population, indigenous peoples, civil society and the private sector, in the development and implementation of programmes, land-use planning and land tenure arrangements, and in other relevant activities related to sustainable development in mountains;

14. *Notes* the importance of ensuring the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for human well-being, economic activity and sustainable development, and of developing innovative means of implementation for their protection, recognizes in this regard the launching of the Mountain Facility of the Mountain Partnership, and encourages States and other relevant stakeholders to financially support it on a voluntary basis;

15. *Encourages* greater efforts by States, all stakeholders and the international community towards the conservation of mountain ecosystems and the enhancement of the well-being of their local populations, including by promoting investment in infrastructure in mountain areas, such as transport and information and communication technologies, and supporting education, extension and capacity-building programmes, especially among local

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[316] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

mountain communities and other relevant stakeholders, taking into account the extent of the current challenges they face and bearing in mind the increased economic, social and environmental costs that inaction might represent for countries and societies;

16. *Underlines* the fact that action at the national level is a key factor in achieving progress in sustainable mountain development, welcomes its steady increase in recent years with a multitude of events, activities and initiatives, and invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to develop and implement strategies and programmes, including, where required, enabling policies and laws for the sustainable development of mountains, within the framework of national sustainable development plans, including by building and strengthening institutional capacities, as appropriate;

17. *Encourages* the further undertaking of multi-stakeholder and transboundary initiatives at the national, regional and global levels, where appropriate, such as those supported by all relevant international and regional organizations, to enhance sustainable development in mountain regions, and notes in this regard the numerous initiatives undertaken, including the second World Mountain Forum, held in Cusco, Peru, in May 2014, the third World Mountain Forum, held in Mbale, Uganda, in October 2016, the Mountain Partnership Event on nutrition and mountain products held in Turin, Italy, in September 2016, and the United Nations Environment Programme-led project entitled "Climate change action in developing countries with fragile mountainous ecosystems from a subregional perspective";

18. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further enhance their constructive efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to promote sustainable mountain development;

19. *Recognizes* that mountain ranges are usually shared among several countries, and in this context encourages transboundary cooperation approaches where the States concerned agree to the sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

20. *Notes with appreciation*, in this context, the Convention on the Protection of the Alps[317] and the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, which promote constructive new approaches to integrated, sustainable mountain development and provide a forum for dialogue among stakeholders, as well as other transboundary approaches and initiatives such as the Mountain Partnership Andean Initiative, the Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region, the African Mountains Regional Forum, the European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region and the Zurich process and the Hindu Kush Himalayan Partnership for Sustainable Mountain Development;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/235

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/464, para. 12)[318]

71/235. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976,[319] the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul,

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[317] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1917, No. 32724.

[318] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[319] See *Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May–11 June 1976* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum).

Turkey, in 1996,[320] and the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[321]

Recalling also relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014 and 70/210 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling further relevant decisions and resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including Council resolution 2016/24 of 27 July 2016 on human settlements, adopted by the Council at its 2016 session,

Reaffirming the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[322]

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, acknowledges the importance of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, and stressing that the New Urban Agenda[321] contributes to its implementation,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledges, inter alia, that expenditures and investments in sustainable development are being devolved to the subnational level, which often lacks adequate technical and technological capacity, financing and support, and recalling also the commitment therein to scaling up international cooperation to strengthen the capacities of municipalities and other local authorities,

Recognizing the importance of achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030[323] for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[324] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[325] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[320] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (A/CONF.165/14), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[321] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[322] Resolution 66/288, annex, in particular paragraphs 134 to 137 on sustainable cities and human settlements, in which, inter alia, it is recognized that cities are engines of economic growth, which, if well planned and developed, including through integrated planning and management approaches, can promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies.

[323] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[324] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[325] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reiterating the importance of the wide participation of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption of the outcome document, entitled "New Urban Agenda", by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016;[321]

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda[326] and on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);[327]

3. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting and taking concrete action for the full, effective and timely implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels;

4. *Reaffirms* the role and expertise of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities, recognizing the linkages between sustainable urbanization, and, inter alia, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda every four years, with the first report to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council in 2018, in accordance with paragraphs 166 to 168 of the Agenda and the footnote thereto;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraphs 171 and 172 of the New Urban Agenda, to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat is carried out in a fair, objective, impartial and representative manner;

7. *Recalls* paragraphs 172 and 173 of the New Urban Agenda, and decides that the report from the evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat should be presented in a timely manner, not later than one month prior to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to improve United Nations system-wide coordination and coherence in the area of sustainable urban development, within the framework of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting, as stressed in paragraph 88 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[328]

9. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

10. *Encourages* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the Urban Basic Services Trust Fund and the technical cooperation trust funds, and invites Governments in a position to do so and other stakeholders to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate;

11. *Reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review with a view to improving its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability in supporting the implementation of its mandate;

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[326] E/2016/54.

[327] A/71/347.

[328] Resolution 70/1.

12. *Reiterates its recognition* that, over the years, the responsibilities of UN-Habitat have changed considerably in their scope and complexity;

13. *Recognizes* the existing mandate of UN-Habitat, including its role in providing substantive and technical support to developing countries in areas related to sustainable cities and human settlements, as reflected in, inter alia, the New Urban Agenda;

14. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

RESOLUTION 71/236

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/465, para. 11),[329] by a recorded vote of 131 to 49, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Palau, Republic of Korea, Tonga, Turkey

71/236. Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

Recalling also its resolutions 63/224 of 19 December 2008, 64/209 of 21 December 2009, 65/167 of 20 December 2010, 67/217 of 21 December 2012 and 69/227 of 19 December 2014,

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[329] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[330]

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[331]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[332]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Stressing the need to fulfil all financing for development commitments, including those contained in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[333] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[334] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Noting that there have been systemic challenges to the global economic architecture demanding a review of global economic governance,

Concerned about the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries and threaten to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap, and which could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Also concerned, in this regard, that, although certain regions have made some progress, more than half of the workers in the developing world, about 1.5 billion people, live in vulnerable employment situations, and approximately one in five people in the developing regions live on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day,

Further concerned about recent economic developments in the context of the continued challenges to achieving sustained economic growth, during which global exchange rate volatility intensified and global inflationary trends diverged, and that the weak prospects for the global economy put at risk vital public investment in education, health and action on climate change, as well as progress in poverty eradication, especially in developing countries,

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[330] Resolution 55/2.

[331] Resolution 65/1.

[332] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[333] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[334] Resolution 63/239, annex.

Concerned that billions of the world's citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity and that there are rising inequalities within and among countries and enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power,

Stressing the lack of strong coordinated international response in dealing with the challenges referred to above, illustrating that the calls made in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order are still highly relevant,

Underlining the need for a more sustainable economic growth and recovery, and recognizing that this goal can be achieved through inclusive multilateralism and the equal participation of all countries, as envisioned, inter alia, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recognizing that innovative and enhanced approaches to financing for development are needed to address the challenges posed by the current global economic situation, poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and stressing that these approaches should neither be a substitute for nor negatively affect the level of traditional sources of development financing, including official development assistance, and that they need to be developed in a spirit of partnership, cooperation and solidarity, bearing in mind the common interests and national priorities of each country,

Recognizing also that many relevant aspects of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order have not been implemented and that, consequently, many developing countries continue to face significant challenges to their development prospects, including vulnerability to external shocks and lack of adequate representation in global economic governance,

Recognizing further the role played by regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as well as regional economic integration, based on equality of partnership, in strengthening international cooperation with the objective of facilitating economic coordination and cooperation for development, the achievement of development goals and the sharing of best practices and knowledge,

Recognizing that widespread financial deregulation has contributed to larger net capital outflows from developing countries to developed countries,

Concerned that excessively expansionary monetary policies and the ensuing competitive currency devaluations pursued by developed countries have an effect equivalent to an across-the-board export subsidy and a generalized increase in import tariffs, which thus nullify or impair existing World Trade Organization market access commitments and further hinder the capacity of developing countries to fulfil their commitments to implement all the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Stressing the need for policy space to allow for the formulation of national development strategies by developing countries, aimed at bringing prosperity for all,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues in the light of the New International Economic Order";[335]

2. *Notes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[336] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[337] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[338] carry forward many of the ideas and recommendations of

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[335] A/71/168.

[336] Resolution 70/1.

[337] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[338] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order[339] and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;[340]

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

4. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

5. *Reaffirms* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, as well as by respect for each country's policy space;

6. *Also reaffirms* the need to step up coordination of macroeconomic policies among countries to avoid negative spillover effects, especially in developing countries;

7. *Calls for* the fulfilment of the commitment to pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors and to reinvigorate the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

8. *Reaffirms* the recommitment to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, as well as countries and peoples under foreign occupation, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

9. *Also reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, and further reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

10. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its seventy-third session, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing those issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, bearing in mind the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the principles contained therein, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

RESOLUTION 71/237

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/465/Add.2, para. 8)[341]

71/237. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010, 67/219 of 21 December 2012 and 69/229 of 19 December 2014 on international migration and development, its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011, 68/179 of 18 December 2013, 69/167 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[342] and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[343] 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,[344] 2013/1 of 26 April 2013[345] and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,[346]

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[339] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

[340] Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

[341] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2016,[347]

Welcoming the agreement to bring the International Organization for Migration, an organization regarded by its member States as the global lead agency on migration, into a closer legal and working relationship with the United Nations as a related organization,[348]

Welcoming also the New Urban Agenda, which was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[349] and recognizing the linkages between migration and sustainable urbanization and sustainable urban development,

Welcoming further the Paris Agreement[350] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[351] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[352] and those provisions that are applicable to migrants,

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[342] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[343] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[344] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 5* (E/2008/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[345] Ibid., *2013, Supplement No. 5* (E/2013/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[346] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 5* (E/2014/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[347] Resolution 71/1.

[348] Resolution 70/296.

[349] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[350] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[351] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[352] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

Recalling also the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which addressed constructively the issue of international migration and development and explored the opportunities and the challenges that international migration presents, including the protection of the human rights of migrants and the contribution of migrants to development,

Recalling further the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, adopted on 3 October 2013 on the occasion of the High-level Dialogue,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[353] recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[354] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[354] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[355] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[356] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[357] and recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,[358]

Encouraging States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[359] and to consider acceding to relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, as appropriate,

Recalling the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches and dialogue on migration and development, and acknowledging that it has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, including through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, intergovernmental, non-binding and informal character and the engagement of civil society actors as well as the private sector,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, including at the level of the United Nations and other international organizations, in relation to development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[360]

2. *Recognizes* the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development and that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses and balanced approaches, and also recognizes that international migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that no one State can manage on its own and that calls for global approaches and global solutions, as well as the integration of sustainable development, with

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[353] Resolution 217 A (III).

[354] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[355] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[356] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[357] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[358] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[359] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[360] A/71/296.

due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions, and should be addressed in a balanced manner through a whole-of-government approach and with respect for human rights;

3. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;

4. *Acknowledges* the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calls for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions, regardless of the level of development;

5. *Recognizes* the need to give particular attention to addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination faced by migrants, and reaffirms the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

6. *Also recognizes* the need for international cooperation to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their migration status;

7. *Expresses concern* about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, and when addressing, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law;

8. *Reaffirms* that States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants, regardless of their migration status;

9. *Welcomes* the decision to launch the process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to an intergovernmental conference on international migration, to be held in 2018, at which a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration will be presented for adoption;

10. *Expresses concern* about the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who find themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizes the obligation of States to respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, including those of women and children, regardless of their migration status, and the specific needs of migrants in vulnerable situations;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to respect and promote international labour standards, as appropriate, and to respect the rights of migrants in their workplaces, including appropriate measures for the protection of women migrant workers in all sectors, including those involved in domestic work;

12. *Recognizes* that it is necessary to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons, including in the health, social and engineering sectors, affects the development efforts of developing countries, and emphasizes the need to consider circular migration in this regard;

13. *Also recognizes* the importance of enhancing the capacities of low-skilled migrants in order to increase their access to employment opportunities;

14. *Underlines* the important role that migrants play as contributors to the development of origin, transit and destination countries, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development and the need to respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status;

15. *Encourages* Member States to consider reducing the costs related to migration, such as the fees paid to recruiters, where applicable, lowering the transfer costs of remittances, enhancing the portability of social security entitlements and other acquired rights and promoting the mutual recognition of the educational and professional qualifications and competencies of migrants;

16. *Recognizes* that remittances constitute an important source of private capital, complement domestic savings and wages and can be instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients, and that remittances cannot be equated to other international financial flows, such as foreign direct investment, official development assistance or other public sources of financing for development;

17. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to further promote faster, cheaper and safer transfers of migrant remittances in both source and recipient countries, including through the reduction of the transaction costs of migrant remittances to less than 3 per cent and the elimination of remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent by 2030, consistent with target 10.c of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[361] as well as the need to facilitate interaction between diasporas and their countries of origin;

18. *Notes* the adoption of resolution 189/XXXVIII by the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, on 16 February 2015, in which the Governing Council proclaimed 16 June as the International Day of Family Remittances and focused attention on the receiving end of family remittances and the need to capitalize on their potential to further help meet the economic, social and environmental challenges confronting developing countries, particularly in rural areas;

19. *Expresses its concern* about the impact of financial and economic crises and natural disasters and other drivers on international migration and migrants, and in this regard urges Governments to combat unfair and discriminatory treatment of all migrants, in particular migrant workers and their families;

20. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level, and also recognizes the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls;

21. *Reiterates its commitment* to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, identifying and protecting victims of trafficking, preventing and combating migrant smuggling, as well as the activities of transnational and national organized crime entities, and protecting migrants from exploitation and other abuses, stresses the need to establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human-trafficking policies and to reinforce cooperation on prevention, the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking, and encourages Member States to ratify, accede to and implement relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants;

22. *Recognizes* that the effective implementation at the national level of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children[362] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[363] supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[364] all of which were adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, remains a challenge, and therefore stresses that it is important for States parties thereto to continue their efforts in this regard;

23. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate on mobility programmes that facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including through labour mobility, as well as programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society and that facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State, and notes that cooperation on return and readmission forms an important element of international cooperation on migration;

24. *Reaffirms* the commitment of Member States to address the drivers that create or exacerbate large movements of migrants, reiterates the need to analyse and respond to the factors, including in countries of origin, which lead or contribute to large movements, and to create conditions that allow communities and individuals to live in peace and prosperity in their homelands, and recognizes that migration should be a choice, not a necessity, and the need to take measures, inter alia, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

25. *Recognizes* the need to improve public perceptions of migrants and migration, welcomes in this regard the efforts undertaken to create greater public awareness of their contributions, also welcomes the global campaign

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[361] Resolution 70/1.

[362] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[363] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[364] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

launched by the Secretary-General to counter xenophobia, supports its implementation in cooperation with the United Nations and all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with international law, and reiterates that the campaign will emphasize, inter alia, direct personal contact between host communities and migrants and will highlight the positive contributions made by the latter, as well as our common humanity;

26. *Strongly condemns* the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of nationality, religion or belief, urges States to apply and, where needed, reinforce the existing laws when xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts, and in this regard recognizes the need to improve their integration and inclusion, as appropriate, with particular reference to access to education, health care, justice and language training;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants stranded in vulnerable situations and to facilitate, and cooperate on when appropriate, their voluntary return to their country of origin, and calls for practical and action-oriented initiatives aimed at identifying and closing protection gaps;

28. *Reaffirms* the commitment of Member States to protect the safety, dignity and human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, at all times, and to cooperate closely to facilitate and ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, including return and readmission, taking into account national legislation;

29. *Also reaffirms* the commitment of Member States to safeguard the rights of, protect the interests of and assist migrant communities abroad, including through consular protection, assistance and cooperation, in accordance with relevant international law, further reaffirms that everyone has the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country, recalls at the same time that each State has a sovereign right to determine whom to admit to its territory, subject to that State's international obligations, also recalls that States must readmit their returning nationals and ensure that they are duly received without undue delay, following confirmation of their nationalities in accordance with national legislation, and recognizes the need to take measures to inform migrants about the various processes relating to their arrival and stay in countries of transit, destination and return;

30. *Emphasizes* the need for reliable, accurate, disaggregated, nationally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data and indicators on international migration, including, when possible, on the contributions of migrants to development in countries of origin, transit and destination, in order to facilitate the design of evidence-based policymaking and decision-making in all relevant aspects of sustainable development, and in this regard invites the entities of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions, in accordance with their mandates and as appropriate, to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this matter;

31. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds, programmes and related organizations of the United Nations, including the International Organization for Migration and other members of the Global Migration Group, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development, as well as other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to strengthen their collaboration and cooperation and enhance their engagement with Member States, the private sector and civil society to better and more fully address the issue of international migration and development, in order to adopt a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated approach;

32. *Requests* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development to continue to facilitate the linkages between the United Nations and the Global Forum on Migration and Development, promote collaboration between the Global Forum process and the Global Migration Group, including the International Organization for Migration, and continue to advocate for the principles reflected in the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development;[365]

33. *Stresses* the need to deepen the interaction between Governments and civil society in order to find responses to the challenges and the opportunities posed by international migration, to recognize the contribution of

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[365] Resolution 68/4.

civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promoting the well-being of migrants and their integration into society, especially when in conditions of extreme vulnerability, and to strengthen the support of the international community for the efforts of such organizations;

34. *Decides* to hold the third High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in the first half of 2019, early enough to inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development which will review the Goals and targets relevant to migration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and also decides to hold the High-level Dialogues during every fourth session of the General Assembly, beginning with the seventy-third session, at United Nations Headquarters, to review the follow-up to the outcomes of the previous High-level Dialogues, advance the discussion on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development, assess progress towards the achievement of the migration-related Goals and targets, including migration-related commitments of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[366] taking into account other migration- and development-related processes;

35. *Also decides* that the modalities for the third High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development will be decided upon at its seventy-third session, and recommends a review, no later than at the eighty-fifth session of the General Assembly, of the organizational arrangements for future high-level dialogues, taking into account the alignment with all relevant United Nations processes;

36. *Invites* the regional commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities and related organizations of the United Nations, including the International Organization for Migration, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to examine the regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs to the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

37. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-third session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution that also looks further into the integration of the migration perspective at the national, regional and international levels, including information on best practices and recommendations to address the difficulties that migrants face and to bolster their contribution to development;

39. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/238

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/466/Add.1, para. 8)[367]

71/238. Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration[368] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[369] adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action,

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[366] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[367] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[368] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

[369] Ibid., chap. II.

Recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/294 of 25 July 2016, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Declaration,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[370] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[371] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[372] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

Recalling also its resolution 70/216 of 22 December 2015 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/15 of 26 July 2016 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

Recalling its resolution 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on the smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Noting the convening of the Ministerial Conference on New Partnerships for Productive Capacity-Building in the Least Developed Countries, held in Cotonou, Benin, from 28 to 31 July 2014, the Ministerial Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Least Developed Countries on Graduation and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, held in Kathmandu from 16 to 18 December 2014, and the Ministerial Meeting of the African Least Developed Countries on Structural Transformation, Graduation and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, held in Milan, Italy, from 8 to 10 June 2015,

Noting also the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016,

Welcoming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[373]

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[370] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[371] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[372] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[373] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Welcoming also the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, and its outcome,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020[374] and the report of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, entitled "State of the Least Developed Countries, 2016";

2. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further strengthen the global partnership for development for the least developed countries in all priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action[369] in order to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the decade, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[375] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[376] which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[370] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[377]

3. *Recalls* the decision contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that effective linkages will be made with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including on the least developed countries, underlines the importance of strong synergy in the implementation of the recently adopted agendas and the Istanbul Programme of Action at the national and subnational levels, and encourages coordination and coherence in the follow-up of their implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* the lessons learned in the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the recommendations contained in the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020;[378]

5. *Recalls* the objectives of the Istanbul Programme of Action of enhancing good governance at all levels by strengthening democratic processes, institutions and the rule of law, increasing efficiency, coherence, transparency and participation, protecting and promoting human rights, reducing corruption and strengthening the capacity of Governments of least developed countries to play an effective role in their economic and social development;

6. *Recognizes* that furthering participation, empowering civil society, youth and women and strengthening collective action will contribute to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of sustainable development;

7. *Invites* the private sector, civil society and foundations to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in their respective areas of competence, in line with the national priorities of the least developed countries;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda incorporate a number of key development challenges and priorities for the least developed countries;

9. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced global support to overcome the structural challenges they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard calls upon the international community to prioritize and strengthen support from all sources to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up to and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the least developed countries;

10. *Recognizes* that significant additional domestic public resources, including at the subnational level, supplemented by international assistance as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and

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[374] A/71/66-E/2016/11.

[375] Resolution 70/1.

[376] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[377] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[378] Resolution 70/294, annex.

achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization underscored by the principle of national ownership;

11. *Also recognizes* that, while the least developed countries have made considerable efforts to mobilize domestic resources and attract private investment, further progress is needed;

12. *Further recognizes* that private business activity, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation, and that private international capital flows, in particular foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

13. *Reiterates* that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private;

14. *Also reiterates* that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial and that ODA providers reaffirm their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

15. *Encouraged* by those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all others to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

16. *Also encouraged* by those who are allocating at least 50 per cent of their ODA to the least developed countries;

17. *Welcomes* continued efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development cooperation and other international efforts in public finance, including adherence to agreed development cooperation effectiveness principles;

18. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to but not a substitute for North-South cooperation;

19. *Urges* the least developed countries and their development partners to make use of existing initiatives and programmes, such as the relevant ministerial decisions of the World Trade Organization on duty-free and quota-free market access for the least developed countries and on preferential rules of origin for those countries, as well as aid for trade, reiterates its commitment to increase aid-for-trade support, in particular for the least developed countries, and strives to allocate an increasing proportion of aid for trade to the least developed countries, provided according to development cooperation effectiveness principles, welcomes additional cooperation among developing countries to this end, encourages the least developed countries to mainstream trade in their national development plans, with this in mind welcomes the extension of the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries into phase two and, as the Enhanced Integrated Framework implements the reforms agreed as necessary for its continuation, urges members to contribute to the timely replenishment of the Enhanced Integrated Framework Trust Fund, for the effective implementation, without any disruption, of the Framework between 2016 and 2023;

20. *Reiterates* that more effective representation of the least developed countries in decision-making at the global level could improve the international environment for the development of the least developed countries, and also reiterates that the international economic system and architecture should be inclusive and responsive to the special development needs of the least developed countries, ensuring their effective participation, voice and representation at all levels;

21. *Recognizes* the significant potential of multilateral development banks and other international development banks in financing sustainable development and providing know-how to the least developed countries;

22. *Recalls* the decision contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action and reaffirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/220 of 21 December 2012 to adopt, expand and implement investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries, and welcomes the decision contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries and the offer to provide financial and technical support for project preparation and contract negotiation, advisory support in investment-related dispute resolution, access to information on investment facilities and risk insurance and guarantees such as through the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency;

23. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to include the issue of investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries in the agenda of the Board, with a view to enhancing the overall effectiveness of United Nations system support that can contribute to enhancing the flow of foreign direct investment to the least developed countries and the ability of those countries to attract such investment;

24. *Also reiterates its invitation* to the Economic and Social Council, at its next annual forum on financing for development follow-up, to discuss adopting and implementing investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on the matter, including General Assembly resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein, invites the President of the Council to include the outcome of this discussion in his summary of the forum on financing for development follow-up, and recalls that the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum will inform the overall follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

25. *Expresses its deep concern* that, owing to significant capacity constraints, the least developed countries are disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, sea level rise, coastal erosion, salinity intrusion, glacier lake outburst floods, ocean acidification and the rise in frequency, as well as the impact, of natural and man-made disasters, which further threaten food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and expresses its concern that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues;

26. *Underlines* the need to reduce the vulnerability of the least developed countries to economic, natural and environmental shocks and disasters, as well as climate change, and to enhance their ability to meet these and other challenges by strengthening their resilience, and in this regard stresses that it is important that all countries and other actors work together to further develop and implement concrete measures on an urgent basis at the national and international levels so as to build the resilience of the least developed countries to withstand economic shocks and mitigate their adverse effects, to withstand and overcome the adverse effects of climate change, to enhance sustainable growth and protect biodiversity and to withstand natural hazards in order to reduce the risk of disasters, as agreed upon in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

27. *Recalls* the decision contained in the Political Declaration of the Midterm Review to undertake an in-depth analysis on crisis mitigation and resilience-building for the least developed countries, at the national and international levels, with a view to building and further strengthening crisis mitigation and resilience in the least developed countries, and the request to the General Assembly to determine the parameters of this analysis at its seventy-first session, and decides that the analysis, to be submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-second session, should focus, inter alia, on the following issues:

(*a*) Stocktaking of various shocks, including natural disasters, economic crises and health epidemics and their impacts on the sustainable development of the least developed countries;

(*b*) Reviewing the current national, regional and international landscapes to better equip the least developed countries against shocks and their effectiveness and identifying gaps;

(*c*) Cataloguing and evaluating various risk-management mechanisms at the subnational, national, regional and global levels available to the least developed countries that combine ex ante preparations for risk with the ex post facto ability to cope with such risk and making recommendations for further actions to strengthen the resilience of the least developed countries;

(*d*) Elaborating on how the international community, including developed and developing countries, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, are supporting and can deepen support for resilience-building for the least developed countries;

(*e*) Examining how the private sector, civil society, academia and other stakeholders, as well as local knowledge and community involvement, can contribute to resilience-building for the least developed countries through preparedness measures, the creation of employment, awareness-raising, the provision of insurance and other measures;

28. *Congratulates* those countries that have graduated from least developed country status, notes with appreciation that several least developed countries have expressed their intention to reach the status of graduation by 2020, invites them to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and requests all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, led by the Office of the High Representative, to extend necessary support in this regard, in a coordinated manner;

29. *Reiterates its recommendation* that the consultative mechanism specified in its resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 be established by the graduating country, in cooperation with its bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners, to facilitate the preparation of the transition strategy and the identification of the associated actions and the negotiation of their duration and phasing-out for a period appropriate to the development situation of the country, and that it be integrated into other relevant consultative processes and initiatives between the graduating country and its development partners;

30. *Invites* development partners to make available timely information about country-specific support measures and related smooth transition measures for the least developed countries in the areas of financial support, technical assistance and trade-related measures, including their time frames, characteristics and modalities;

31. *Reaffirms its commitment* to fully operationalize the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries by 2017, and welcomes the establishment of its multi-stakeholder governing council and trust fund;

32. *Encourages* the least developed countries, in accordance with their national plans and priorities and with the full support of their development partners, to develop their capacities to track financial transactions, administer taxation, regulate customs and redouble efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation, and also encourages the United Nations and other relevant international bodies to help support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

33. *Recognizes* that the activities relating to the least developed countries carried out within the Secretariat need to be further coordinated and consolidated in order to ensure the effective monitoring and follow-up of the Istanbul Programme of Action, led by the Office of the High Representative, and to provide well-coordinated support to realizing the goal of enabling half of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020;

34. *Takes note* of the work of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for the least developed countries, led by the Office of the High Representative, also takes note of the finalization by the Office of the High Representative of the toolkit for mainstreaming the Istanbul Programme of Action into the work programmes of the organizations of the United Nations system, which was considered by the High-Level Committee on Programmes and taken note of by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination,[379] notes the steps taken by the Chief Executives Board and the High-level Committee in supporting the coordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action on a system-wide basis, and reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in the agenda of the Board;

35. *Underlines* the need to give particular attention to the issues and concerns of the least developed countries in all major United Nations conferences and processes;

36. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include, as appropriate, the issues of concern to the least developed countries in all relevant reports in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, in order to support the implementation of the goals set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

37. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the Trust Fund in Support of Activities Undertaken by

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[379] See http://unohrlls.org/mainstreamingtheipoa.

the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the annual review meeting on the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and the Istanbul Programme of Action and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/239

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/466/Add.2, para. 8)[380]

71/239. Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[381] adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014, at which all relevant stakeholders expressed their commitment to the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Recalling its resolutions 70/197 and 70/217 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in 2012, entitled "The future we want",[382]

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[380] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[381] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[382] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[383] while recognizing that landlocked developing countries face some specific disaster risk challenges, and reiterating the commitment to addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[384] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[385] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recognizing the specific needs and special circumstances of developing country parties, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, as provided for in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Noting with appreciation the launch of the Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks, in Washington, D.C., on 16 April 2016,

Taking note of the Global Sustainable Transport Conference, held in Ashgabat on 26 and 27 November 2016,

Recalling Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean resolutions 700 (XXXVI) and 711 (XXXVI) and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 71/3, and taking note of resolution 934 (XLVIII) adopted by the eighth Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,

Recalling also the Almaty Declaration[386] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[387] the first programme of action for the landlocked developing countries,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets and high transit costs and risks, continues to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and the domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affects their overall growth and socioeconomic development,

Recognizing also that the primary responsibility for establishing effective transit systems rests with landlocked and transit developing countries,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting collaboration between landlocked developing countries and transit countries on the basis of common interest, and noting that collaboration efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments,

Recognizing the need to promote both public and private investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies, as well as the special vulnerabilities and needs of landlocked developing countries,

Stressing the importance of the participation and contribution of landlocked developing countries to Expo 2017, to be held in Astana, focusing on the theme "Future energy",

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[383] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[384] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[385] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[386] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

[387] Ibid., annex I.

Acknowledging the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries and the importance of enhancing existing transport infrastructure facilities for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Reaffirming that achieving food security and improving nutrition, ensuring healthy lives, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls are important for achieving sustainable development, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that the Vienna Programme of Action, which is integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is based on renewed and strengthened partnerships for accompanying landlocked developing countries in harnessing benefits from international trade, structurally transforming their economies and achieving more inclusive and sustainable growth,

Taking note of the Livingstone Call for Action for the Accelerated Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries, the communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries held on the margins of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Nairobi on 16 December 2015, the declaration adopted at the Fifth Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Geneva on 23 and 24 June 2016, the communiqué of the Fifteenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in New York on 22 September 2016, and the ministerial declaration adopted at the High-level Meeting on Sustainable Transport of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Santa Cruz, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 13 and 14 October 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024;[188]

2. *Welcomes* the recognition of the special needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[189] and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[190] and affirms that the effective implementation of those outcomes, together with the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[191] can drive the social and economic progress of landlocked developing countries and assist in their transformation from landlocked to land-linked countries;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, and stresses that the concerns and specific challenges of landlocked developing countries should be given consideration, as appropriate, in the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

4. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries face specific challenges in their efforts towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and the pursuit of sustainable development, and in this regard underscores the importance of continued international support to complement the efforts of landlocked developing countries;

5. *Invites* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement at all levels the relevant actions that have been agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action in its six priority areas, namely: fundamental transit policy issues; infrastructure development and maintenance; international trade and trade facilitation; regional integration and cooperation; structural economic transformation; and means of implementation; in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

6. *Invites* development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action;

7. *Invites* Member States to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies in order to ensure its effective implementation;

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[188] A/71/313.

[189] Resolution 70/1.

[190] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[191] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

8. *Appreciates* the efforts made by Member States and other development partners, including the governing bodies of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, inter alia, to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action;

9. *Recalls* the outcome of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016,[392] and encourages the Conference to help to address the needs of landlocked developing countries, consistent with the Nairobi Maafikiano;[393]

10. *Stresses* that the harmonization, simplification and standardization of rules and documentation should be promoted, including the full and effective implementation of international conventions on transport and transit and bilateral, subregional and regional agreements, stresses also that cooperation on fundamental transit policies, laws and regulations between landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours is crucial for the effective and integrated solution of cross-border trade and transit transport problems, and underlines that this cooperation should be promoted on the basis of the mutual interests of both landlocked developing countries and transit countries;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the special needs of landlocked developing countries, inter alia, by establishing and promoting efficient transit transport systems, including roads, railroads and inland waterways, that link landlocked developing countries to international markets, and reaffirms that the Vienna Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels;

12. *Invites* landlocked developing countries and transit countries to consider ratifying, as appropriate, relevant international trade and transport facilitation conventions;[394]

13. *Underlines* that infrastructure development plays a key role in reducing the cost of development for landlocked developing countries and that the development and maintenance of transit transport infrastructure, information and communications technology and energy infrastructure are crucial for landlocked developing countries in order to reduce high trading costs, improve their competitiveness and become fully integrated into the global market;

14. *Stresses* that the magnitude of the resources required to invest in infrastructure development and maintenance remains a major challenge and requires the forging of international, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation on infrastructure projects, the allocation of more resources from national budgets, the effective deployment of international development assistance and multilateral financing in the development and maintenance of infrastructure and strengthening of the role of the private sector, and recognizes that both public and private investment have key roles to play in infrastructure financing, including through development banks, development finance institutions and tools and mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, blended finance, which combines concessional public finance, non-concessional private finance and expertise from the public and private sector, special-purpose vehicles, non-recourse project financing, risk mitigation instruments and pooled funding structures;

15. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and transit countries, in a coordinated manner, to develop and upgrade international transport and transit corridors encompassing all modes of transportation, such as inland waterways, roads, rail networks, ports and pipelines, to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries;

16. *Acknowledges* that impediments to private investment in infrastructure exist on both the supply and the demand side and that insufficient investment is due in part to inadequate infrastructure plans and an insufficient number of well-prepared investable projects, along with private sector incentive structures that are not necessarily appropriate for investing in many long-term projects and risk perceptions of investors, encourages landlocked developing countries to embed resilient and quality infrastructure investment plans into their national sustainable

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[392] See TD/519 and Add.1 and 2.

[393] TD/519/Add.2.

[394] Including the Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972), the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (Geneva, 18 May 1956), the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975), the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982) and the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation (2013).

development strategies, while also strengthening their domestic enabling environments, and calls upon the international community to provide technical support to landlocked developing countries to translate plans into concrete project pipelines, as well as support for individual implementable projects, including for feasibility studies, the negotiation of complex contracts and project management;

17. *Encourages* multilateral development banks, including regional banks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, to address gaps in trade, transport and transit-related regional infrastructure, including by completing missing links connecting, inter alia, landlocked developing countries within regional networks;

18. *Underlines* that greater integration of landlocked developing countries into world trade and global value chains is vital for increasing their competitiveness and diversification and ensuring their economic development;

19. *Welcomes* the elements included in the "Nairobi Package" of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, and invites members of the World Trade Organization to expeditiously ratify the Agreement on Trade Facilitation;

20. *Stresses* the importance, for the economic development of landlocked developing countries, of their increased participation in the multilateral trading system;

21. *Recognizes* that services sectors are important enablers of trade in goods and effective participation in international trade and global value chains, that efficient services sectors enhance productivity, reduce the cost of doing business and promote job creation and that landlocked developing countries should be supported so as to increase the share of services in their economies and exports, including through enabling policies;

22. *Stresses* that improved trade facilitation, including through further streamlining and harmonization of customs and transit procedures and formalities and transparent and efficient border management and coordination of agencies involved in border clearance, would help landlocked developing countries to enhance the competitiveness of their export products and services;

23. *Also stresses* the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries in a broader range of areas than just trade and trade facilitation, including investment, research and development and policies aimed at accelerating regional industrial development and regional connectivity, that this approach is aimed at fostering structural change and economic growth in landlocked developing countries as a goal, and also as a means of collectively linking regions to global markets, that this would enhance competitiveness and help to maximize benefits from globalization and that documentation and the sharing and dissemination of best practices are important to allow cooperating partners to benefit from each other's experience;

24. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, stresses the need for renewed and strengthened partnerships for development to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base and enhancing value addition to their exports by entering and moving up global value chains through the development of their productive capacities, including through private sector involvement, and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets, and welcomes the establishment of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;[395]

25. *Underlines* that, in order for landlocked developing countries to fully utilize their export and trade potential, it is important to undertake measures that promote structural economic transformation capable of reducing the negative impact of their geographical disadvantages and external shocks, creating jobs and ultimately leading to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and inclusive and sustainable growth and development, stresses that each landlocked developing country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and in this regard stresses that the national development efforts of landlocked developing countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment;

26. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external economic shocks and to the multiple other challenges faced by the international community;

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[395] Resolution 69/313, annex, para. 123.

27. *Also recognizes* the adverse impacts of climate change, land degradation, desertification, deforestation, floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, and droughts on the economies of landlocked developing countries, recognizes the potential benefits of mutually addressing these challenges, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the efforts of landlocked developing countries to address these challenges in an integrated manner, as appropriate;

28. *Further recognizes* that landlocked developing countries are vulnerable to climate change, which is exacerbating desertification and land degradation, and that they remain negatively affected by desertification, land degradation and drought;

29. *Urges* those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, in order to fully operationalize the think tank;

30. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries and their transit country neighbours need to effectively mobilize adequate domestic and external resources for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, reaffirms that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action, and also recognizes that international public finance plays an important role in complementing those efforts, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

31. *Underlines* the critical role of the private sector, including through foreign direct investment, in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

32. *Also underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries in this regard, and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

33. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, with providers of official development assistance reaffirming their respective commitments;

34. *Invites* developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to, but not a substitute for, North-South cooperation;

35. *Calls upon* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative, giving adequate consideration to the special needs and requirements of landlocked developing countries, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and the implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products;

36. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites international organizations such as the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Trade Organization, the World Customs Organization, the Common Fund for Commodities, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in their implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner;

37. *Underlines* the importance of increasing the availability and use of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by sex, age, geography, income, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, stresses the need to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, for this purpose, and reaffirms the commitment to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data;

38. *Urges* that coherent and effective linkages be made between the implementation, follow-up and review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and those of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including the Vienna Programme of Action;

39. *Underlines* the importance of the successful implementation of, follow-up to and review of the Vienna Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

40. *Stresses* the importance of universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services, and welcomes the holding of the high-level seminar on accelerating sustainable energy for all in landlocked developing countries through innovative partnerships in Vienna on 24 and 25 October 2016;

41. *Also stresses* that, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should continue to ensure the coordinated follow-up to, effective monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and undertake advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels;

42. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the Trust Fund in Support of Activities Undertaken by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to support the implementation of, follow-up to and monitoring of the Vienna Programme of Action;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/240

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/467, para. 11)[396]

71/240. Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[397]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

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[396] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Austria, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Yemen.

[397] Resolution 60/1.

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 69/233 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling also its resolutions 70/193 of 22 December 2015, entitled "International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017", 70/196 of 22 December 2015 on sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America and 70/200 of 22 December 2015, entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism",

Recalling further the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[398] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the latter of which, inter alia, highlighted the need to promote and integrate disaster risk management approaches throughout the tourism industry, given the often heavy reliance on tourism as a key economic driver,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[399] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[400] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[401]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[402] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[403] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[404] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[405] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[406] the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[407] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[408] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[409] the report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[410] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[411] and the outcome document of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[412]

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[398] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[399] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[400] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[401] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[402] Resolution 55/2.

[403] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[404] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[405] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[406] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[407] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[408] Resolution 65/1.

[409] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[410] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35.

[411] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[412] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Recognizing that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, is a cross-cutting activity that can contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of women and young people and promoting rural development and better living conditions for rural populations,

Welcoming the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

Recalling the adoption of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012,[413] welcoming the launching of the sustainable tourism programme of the Framework, and encouraging further implementation through capacity-building projects and initiatives to support sustainable tourism,

Noting the initiatives launched and the events organized at the subregional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and sustainable development,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[414]

2. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, represents, in many countries, an important driver of sustainable economic growth and decent job creation for all, that it can have a positive impact on income generation and education, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger, and that it can contribute directly to achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Also recognizes* the potential of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to reduce poverty by improving individual livelihoods in local communities and to generate resources for community development projects;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, in all countries, particularly developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States;

5. *Also emphasizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can contribute to sustainable development, in particular to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, and can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities;

6. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and young people, and can create significant opportunities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and/or the protection of natural areas by encouraging indigenous peoples and local communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

7. *Encourages* all stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in sustainable tourism, including women and young people in all tourism operations, including ecotourism activities, in the light of their expertise and knowledge;

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[413] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[414] A/71/173.

8. *Underlines*, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines, institutions and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and supporting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and minimizing any potential negative impact;

9. *Invites* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to encourage and support best practices in relation to the implementation of relevant policies, guidelines and regulations in sustainable tourism, including the ecotourism sector, and to implement and disseminate existing guidelines;

10. *Encourages* Member States to use sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool to foster sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger, including the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources and the promotion of investment and entrepreneurship in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in accordance with their national development policies and legislation, which may include creating small and medium-sized enterprises, promoting cooperatives and facilitating access to financing through inclusive financial services, including microcredit initiatives for the poor, women and young people, indigenous peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities and local communities in all areas, including rural areas;

11. *Encourages* the development of tourism infrastructure and the promotion of tourism diversification, including through public-private partnerships, as a way to foster job creation for local communities, the preservation of their way of life, culture and heritage and the promotion of the three dimensions of sustainable development, while simultaneously inviting Member States to take measures to protect the environment and the sociocultural heritage of a destination;

12. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to support the coordination of regional and/or international sustainable tourism development frameworks, as appropriate, in order to assist countries in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection;

13. *Underlines* the importance of conducting an environmental impact assessment, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism opportunities;

14. *Also underlines* the need to foster resilient tourism development to deal with shocks, taking into account that the tourism sector is vulnerable to emergencies, and invites Member States to develop national strategies for rehabilitation after shocks, including through private-public cooperation and the diversification of activities and products;

15. *Stresses* that indigenous cultures, traditions and knowledge, in all their aspects, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted in policy development for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and underlines the importance of promoting the full and early participation and involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities in decisions that affect them, and where consented to, by integrating their knowledge, heritage and values into sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, as appropriate;

16. *Emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to ensure the full empowerment of women, including the equal participation of women and men at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas;

17. *Also emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to help to ensure the equal participation of young people, persons with disabilities and older persons at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas and to promote the effective economic empowerment, including through international cooperation, of women, young people, persons with disabilities and older persons in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, mainly through decent job and income creation;

18. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations system, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as an instrument that can contribute to achieving those Goals, in particular when it comes to eradicating extreme poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in this field;

19. *Encourages* the regional and international financial institutions to provide adequate support to programmes and projects related to sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, taking into account the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of such activities;

20. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, in particular the World Tourism Organization, United Nations bodies and other organizations, to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request, and to assist, as appropriate, in strengthening legislative or policy frameworks for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, including those for environmental protection and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;

21. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, other organizations and multilateral financial institutions to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request and as appropriate, in identifying needs as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to poverty eradication, including through securing wider community benefits from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, as a viable and sustainable economic development option;

22. *Encourages* the public and private sectors and relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request, assistance for capacity-building, the development of specific guidelines and awareness-raising materials and training for people involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, such as language training and training in specific skills in tourism services, as well as to develop or strengthen partnerships, especially in protected areas;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations, within existing mandates and resources, the public and private sectors and other relevant stakeholders to develop awareness-raising materials that target local development, the empowerment of women and indigenous peoples and youth entrepreneurship and innovation, in order to ensure the sustainability of the tourism sector and its contribution to the country's development objectives;

24. *Invites* relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request and as appropriate, technical assistance to assist in building the capacity, including for marketing and product positioning, of local communities, cooperatives and micro-, small and medium-sized businesses involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities;

25. *Recognizes* the role of North-South cooperation in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a means to achieve economic growth, reduce inequalities and improve living standards in developing countries, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation, as complements to North-South cooperation, have the potential to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism;

26. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders to consider joining the framework of the International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories of the World Tourism Organization as a way to promote socioeconomic and environmentally sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and to support better informed sustainable tourism policies around the world, mainly through the identification and dissemination of best practices and enhanced awareness of and capacity-building for sustainability among tourism stakeholders;

27. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations and the tourism sector to improve efforts to regularly measure, as appropriate, the role of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to allow more evidence-based decision-making, replicability and scalability at the local and national levels, especially in the context of other economic activities, and with the use of innovative technologies to address sociocultural and environmental impacts, and stresses the need for capacity-building for developing countries in this regard;

28. *Encourages* improved marketing and communication on sustainable practices for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in order to enhance decision-making by consumers regarding their needs, in line with the objective of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, and to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-third session, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool for fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, taking into account relevant reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/241

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/467/Add.1, para. 9)[415]

71/241. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/218 of 22 December 2015 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[416] adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the goals to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, measured in 2015 as people living on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day,[417] and to end hunger,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[418] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[419]

Taking note of the ongoing efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[420] adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[421] adopted in September 2014 at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[422] adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, and recognizing that many middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and the need for, inter alia, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

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[415] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[416] Resolution 55/2.

[417] From 2008 to mid-2015, United Nations reports on the Millennium Development Goals used a poverty line of 1.25 United States dollars a day, converted to national currencies at 2005 purchasing power parity exchange rates. Since mid-2015, the poverty line has been updated to 1.90 United States dollars a day, converted at 2011 purchasing power parity exchange rates.

[418] Resolution 60/1.

[419] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[420] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[421] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[422] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

Taking note with appreciation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011, entitled "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact", of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Council,[423] which called for increased efforts to enhance coordination at all levels with a view to strengthening national development strategies, investing in productive capacities, helping to start and grow business and promoting opportunities for full and productive employment and decent work for all, and of the integration segment of the 2015 session of the Council, which was convened under the theme "Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all", and taking note of the outcomes of the integration segment of the 2015 session of the Council, including the proposal to launch a global network of stakeholders on employment creation and decent work for sustainable development,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[424] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[425]

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Acknowledging, in this regard, the early efforts to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including the convening of the inaugural Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in April 2016, and stressing the need for substantive deliberation on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the forum as the designated mechanism to follow up on the financing for development outcomes,

Taking note of the adoption of the Nairobi Maafikiano[426] on 22 July 2016, during the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, reaffirming the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and recognizing that trade and development can contribute to the eradication of poverty and that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development therefore has a role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Recognizing that the importance of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

Concerned at the global nature of poverty and inequality, underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and of hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of all humankind, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need to better understand the multidimensional nature of development and poverty,

Reaffirming that each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development, that the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries, and that there are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries,

Deeply concerned that poverty acts as a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that the feminization of poverty persists, stressing the importance of giving to women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land

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[423] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. F.

[424] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[425] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[426] TD/519/Add.2.

and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, reaffirming that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities and that their full, effective and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, and reaffirming also that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are critical factors in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that eight years after the financial crisis the global economy is still facing subdued growth and aggregate demand, income inequality and financial fragility, that trade has grown still more slowly, that, although interest rates are now beginning to rise, capital flows are again becoming volatile, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and developing countries' share in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed towards a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries, particularly developing countries, still face considerable challenges and some have fallen further behind,

Reaffirming that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, that its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development, that increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States, and that the survival of many societies and of the biological support systems of the planet are at risk, which further threaten food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and thus require urgent action to maintain, preserve and sustain the development gains achieved in the past decades,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[427] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[428] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Concerned that, while the end of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) is approaching and recognizing that there has been progress in reducing poverty, the progress remains uneven, with the number of people living in poverty in its different forms and dimensions continuing to be at a significant level and levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remaining high or widening in a number of countries,

Recognizing that rates of economic growth vary among countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

Urging all countries that have not yet done so to ratify and accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[429] encouraging parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities, and recover and return stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encouraging the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expressing support to the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urging that regional conventions against corruption be updated and ratified, and striving to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows,

Committed to working to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations, and to strengthening international cooperation and national institutions to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

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[427] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[428] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[429] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in small island developing States and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

Acknowledging that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, requires a balanced approach to the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – in order to ensure that gains are irreversible,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and promote the empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons,

Underlining the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of the international community and with a view to providing access to health services for all, including those who are vulnerable or marginalized, and underlining also that women and children are particularly affected by disasters and outbreaks,

Underscoring the importance of enhanced international cooperation to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, implement universal access to health services and address health challenges, while taking into account different national circumstances and respecting national policies and priorities,

Recognizing the centrality of mobilizing financial and non-financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources, as well as the importance of policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development, at all levels and by all actors, and of reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals,

Underscoring that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels,

Acknowledging an important role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development,

Taking into consideration that official development assistance (ODA) remains an important source of financing for development in developing countries,

Acknowledging that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for but rather a complement to North-South cooperation, and recognizing the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty and supporting sustained economic growth and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while recognizing the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and emphasizing also that countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries also deserve special attention, *Taking note* of the work done under the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in its advisory and programmatic support to Member States, involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and encouraging the alignment of that work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues";[430]

2. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[431] which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals relating to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to coordinate international support to that end;

3. *Also reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[432] is an integral part;

4. *Further reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be overemphasized, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

5. *Underlines* the importance of drawing lessons from the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems to ensure access to data which are of high quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, harnessing partnerships, fostering the global exchange of ideas and experiences and showcasing innovative and efficient initiatives and strategies to eradicate poverty and promote decent work for all, to build momentum towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority within the United Nations development agenda to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

7. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development and its role at the regional level, in particular that of its regional commissions, as appropriate, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

8. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of regional, subregional and interregional cooperation can have a catalytic impact on poverty eradication efforts and offers many benefits, including the exchange of best policies,

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[430] A/71/181.

[431] Resolution 70/1.

[432] Resolution 69/313, annex.

experiences and technical expertise, the mobilization of resources and the expansion of economic opportunities and conditions favourable to job creation;

9. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda and to urgently take measures to address the root causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in the light of their negative impacts on sustainable development, through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, and calls upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through predictable financial resources and technical assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases;

10. *Stresses* the importance of public-private partnerships in a wide range of areas, with the aim of eradicating poverty and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, as appropriate;

11. *Acknowledges* the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard emphasizes that, in accelerating poverty eradication, the organizations of the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities, with the development of national capacities in developing countries continuing to be a core area of focus, and operate in an integrated, coordinated and coherent manner, through development programmes and projects that address poverty eradication as their underlying objective, within their respective mandates, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

12. *Recognizes* the role of the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions, including the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Europe, in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including through education and training;

13. *Also recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systematic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up;

14. *Acknowledges* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, and realize a rise in living standards and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment;

15. *Recognizes* that additional domestic public resources, supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization underscored by the principle of national ownership;

16. *Also recognizes* that private business activity, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

17. *Notes* that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, and also notes that it can support improved tax collection, help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services and can also be used to unlock additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

18. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support towards the fulfilment of ODA commitments, including through raising public awareness, providing data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results, encourages partner countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that ODA is used effectively to help to achieve development goals and targets, encourages the publication of forward-looking plans which increase the clarity, predictability and transparency of future development cooperation, in accordance with national budget allocation processes, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

19. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources, and that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other public and private sources, and that ODA providers fulfil their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

20. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus,[illegible] expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, welcomes those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

21. *Recognizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically and that, for the least developed countries as a group, ODA remains the largest source of external financing, that the decline in ODA to the least developed countries during the past years was a worrisome trend and that the level of 0.09 per cent of gross national income attained in 2014 remained below the relevant 0.15 to 0.20 per cent target to which many developed countries have committed, and notes, in that context, the 4 per cent real-term increase in bilateral ODA to the least developed countries in 2015 and the projection that the proportion of ODA to those countries will continue to rise in 2016–2019, suggesting that developed countries are reversing the decline in ODA to the least developed countries;

22. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of ODA and to increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[illegible] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

23. *Stresses* the importance of using multidimensional indicators and developing transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product in order to effectively reflect the

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[illegible] A/63/539, annex.

reality of the populations of all developing countries in order to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality everywhere, according to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

24. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food security, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation and devote resources to developing rural and urban areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and to supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

25. *Also recognizes* that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of the natural resources of the planet, and stresses the importance of conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife, as well as promoting sustainable tourism, tackling water scarcity and water pollution, strengthening cooperation on desertification, dust storms, degraded land and soil and drought, promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction, addressing decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation and implementing the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;[414]

26. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;

27. *Recognizes* that sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic, trade and social policies at all levels;

28. *Stresses* the resolve to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, measured in 2015 as living on less than 1.25 dollars a day,[417] and the efforts to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its forms and dimensions, according to national definitions;

29. *Recognizes* that poverty is multidimensional, invites national Governments, supported by the international community, to consider developing complementary measurements that better reflect this multidimensionality, and emphasizes the importance of developing a common understanding among national Governments and other stakeholders of the multidimensional nature of poverty;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture, resilient infrastructure development and enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health care, including through the acceleration of transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

31. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

32. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, as appropriate, to conduct activities to accelerate and review progress in the implementation of the Second Decade, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

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[414] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

33. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, including among young people and young women in particular, recognizes that decent work for all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

34. *Urges* Member States to address the global challenge of youth unemployment by developing and implementing strategies that give young people, including young women, everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work, and in this context stresses the need for the development of a global strategy on youth employment, building upon, inter alia, the Global Jobs Pact and the call for action by the International Labour Organization;

35. *Recognizes* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

36. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, improving access to financial services, including affordable microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, emphasizing the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy, guided, as appropriate, by the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), of the International Labour Organization, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

37. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and encourages Member States to continue to develop and implement social protection floors based on national priorities, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

38. *Also stresses* the importance of policies to address longer-term structural issues, including structural constraints faced by women as economic agents, and to remove any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, through, inter alia, undertaking legislation and administrative reforms, as appropriate, to give women equal rights with men in political and economic decision-making and access to economic resources and to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through paid maternity and parental leave and the redistribution of the disproportionate work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, and encourages the private sector, in accordance with national legislation, to contribute through advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as by protecting them against discrimination and abuse in the workplace;

39. *Emphasizes* the reference in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the need to ensure the significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide predictable means for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

40. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the outcome documents relating to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, and the means of implementation, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

41. *Also urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development[415] in support of the objectives of the Second Decade;

42. *Stresses* that the impacts of natural disasters, conflicts and major outbreaks of diseases are severely hampering efforts to achieve poverty eradication, in particular in developing countries, and calls upon the international community to give priority to addressing them;

43. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates, to assign the highest priority to poverty eradication, and stresses that efforts in this area should be scaled up to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger;

44. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to support Member States, at their request, in strengthening their macroeconomic policy capacity and national development strategies so as to contribute to achieving the objectives of the Second Decade;

45. *Encourages* greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding the duplication of efforts;

46. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

47. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

48. *Invites* all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to consider organizing activities for the celebration in 2017 of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the declaration by the General Assembly, in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, in order to raise public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, and in this regard recognizes the useful role that the observance of the Day continues to play in raising public awareness and mobilizing all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and promoting the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a comprehensive report evaluating the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), including recommendations to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Decade, noting, inter alia, the possibility of considering a third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)", unless otherwise agreed.

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[415] Resolution 63/303, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/242

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/467/Add.2, para. 8)[436]

71/242. Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996, 53/177 of 15 December 1998, 55/187 of 20 December 2000, 57/243 of 20 December 2002, 59/249 of 22 December 2004, 61/215 of 20 December 2006, 63/231 of 19 December 2008, 65/175 of 20 December 2010, 67/225 of 21 December 2012 and 69/235 of 19 December 2014,

Recalling also the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[437] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[438] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Taking note of the outcome documents of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016,[439]

Recalling its resolution 70/293 of 25 July 2016 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025), in which it underlined the need for the African continent to take urgent action to support the inclusive and sustainable industrialization of Africa in order to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, as well as to achieve other relevant Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the fifteenth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, held in Lima from 2 to 6 December 2013, and the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development,[440] in which the General Conference notably reaffirmed the unique mandate of the Organization and laid the foundation for its upcoming work to support member States in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

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[436] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[437] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[438] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[439] TD/519/Add.1 and 2.

[440] See GC.15/INF/4, resolution GC.15/Res.1.

Recalling further that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognized, inter alia, the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification and value addition,

Noting the ongoing efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[441] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, adopted in September 2014 at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States,[442] and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries,[443] and recognizing that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and the need, among other things, for improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system,

Noting also that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can effectively contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, integrating, in a balanced manner, the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Acknowledging the industrial development reports prepared by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which examine structural change and policies in relation to industrial development to improve the contribution of industry to sustainable development, social inclusion, decent work, productivity growth and energy efficiency,

Reiterating that each country has the right and the primary responsibility to define its development strategies in accordance with its national priorities and in line with the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, noting the continuing withdrawals from the membership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as the importance of member States in arrears fulfilling their obligations, and the potential impact on the Organization's capacity to deliver, and in this regard inviting all countries to consider aligning their support and development efforts towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue reaching out to all States Members of the United Nations and encourage them to join the Organization in the spirit of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development and with a view to strengthening the means of implementation for Sustainable Development Goal 9 and other relevant and interlinked goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and supporting sustained economic growth, and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries, and in particular African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while recognizing the significant challenges facing middle-income countries, and emphasizing further that countries in situations of conflict also need special attention,

Recognizing the diversity of ways to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development and, in this connection, that each country has the primary responsibility for its own development and the right to determine its own development paths and appropriate strategies, that this requires effective measures at all levels to overcome weak economic growth and persistent and emerging challenges to strong and stable development, that inclusiveness and sustainability are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that such measures, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, have to be tailored to take into account different national capacities, needs and levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities,

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[441] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[442] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[443] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that building resilient and quality infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation and achieving the interlinked targets of the other Sustainable Development Goals will be critical,

Stressing the importance of international industrial cooperation to promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and to address major challenges and issues such as poverty eradication, growth and decent jobs, resource efficiency, energy, pollution and climate change, shifting demographics, knowledge networking and the narrowing of growing inequalities,

Stressing also that the creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies and associated know-how, including the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development,

Underscoring the importance of using science, technology and innovation to build and maintain resilient industrial infrastructure and achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

Recognizing the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that process, and recognizing also in this regard that an enabling national environment is vital for mobilizing national resources, increasing productivity, fostering long-term and quality investment, encouraging the private sector and making effective use of international investment and assistance, and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;[444]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption, on 2 December 2013, of the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development;[440]

3. *Reaffirms* the indivisible and inclusive nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[445] while acknowledging that achieving inclusive and sustainable industrialization is integral to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Recognizes* the contribution of the United Nations system, particularly, inter alia, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization and the regional commissions, international financial institutions, international trade and economic institutions and all other relevant entities in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness and to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

5. *Also recognizes* the unique mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within the United Nations system, to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development and the important contribution to be made by that Organization, as well as by other relevant entities and stakeholders, as appropriate, in supporting Member States in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including all relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

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[444] See A/71/264.

[445] Resolution 70/1.

6. *Reiterates* the policies, actions and objectives outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[446] to invest in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development to effectively address major challenges such as growth and jobs, resources and energy efficiency, pollution and climate change, knowledge-sharing, innovation and social inclusion;

7. *Recognizes* that the mobilization of national and international resources and an enabling national and international environment are key drivers for sustainable development;

8. *Underlines* the potential benefits, for developing countries, of stepping up their efforts to finance their own development by improving domestic resource mobilization and promoting financing, spurred by a robust and vibrant industrial sector, in order to achieve a long-term impact through local, national and regional ownership;

9. *Emphasizes* that each country must take the primary responsibility for its own industrial development, that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that the role of national policies, resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also emphasizes that it is crucial for States to maintain their capacity for effective policy design and implementation, consistent with their international obligations, and thereby taking into account the regional strategies and policies agreed upon, as appropriate;

10. *Recognizes* that ensuring inclusive and sustainable industrial development requires consistent industrial policies and institutional frameworks that are duly supported by the necessary investment in industrial infrastructure, innovation, environmental technologies and skills development;

11. *Notes* the launch of the Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks, on 16 April 2016 in Washington, D.C., and looks forward to relevant cooperation to advance the linkages among infrastructure development, inclusive and sustainable industrialization and innovation;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the Group of 20 Initiative on Supporting Industrialization in Africa and Least Developed Countries, launched by the leaders of the Group of 20 at its Summit held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016,[447] which aims at strengthening the inclusive growth and development potential of Africa and the least developed countries through voluntary policy options, and looks forward to its implementation while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage with other States Members of the United Nations in its work and to ensure that any Group of 20 initiatives complement and strengthen the United Nations system;

13. *Recognizes* that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can play a crucial role in the realization of other major development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals, since, through inclusive and sustainable approaches to industrial development, countries can achieve self-sustaining economic and social development in an environmentally sustainable framework;

14. *Also recognizes* that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels, including in decision-making processes, will make a crucial contribution to progress across all Sustainable Development Goals, including achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

15. *Emphasizes* that national efforts should be supported by development partners, as appropriate, and need to be complemented by a rules-based multilateral trading system that facilitates trade and provides opportunities for developing countries that aim to broaden their competitive export base by strengthening their capacities, facilitating the structural transformation and diversification of their economies and enhancing the participation and integration of enterprises from developing countries, including micro- and small-scale industrial enterprises, into global value chains and markets, which can help to promote economic growth and development, while taking into account support for local and regional industrial development and value chains, as appropriate;

16. *Also emphasizes* the need for the international community and the private sector, as appropriate, to contribute to creating an enabling environment for sustainable industrial development;

17. *Stresses* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and

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[446] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[447] See A/71/380, annex.

strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the private sector, as well as the role of public-private partnerships, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of strengthening existing and forging new partnerships and networks at the global, regional and subregional levels, including South-South and triangular cooperation, and the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders towards achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

19. *Stresses* that the lack of a dynamic industrial and manufacturing sector is one of the many factors that can lead to a widening of the income gap between rich and poor and to the erosion of social protection systems, as well as remaining inequality within and among countries;

20. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to organize global dialogues and promote multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to actively pursue its important role in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable industrial development and advance the linkages with infrastructure development and innovation for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Welcomes* the offer made by the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to host the Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summit in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 30 March 2017, creating a multi-stakeholder platform for Governments, the private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to share good practices, address challenges and foster innovative solutions to harness the potential of manufacturing and industrialization for sustainable development;

22. *Notes* the continuing cooperation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with the entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

23. *Underscores* the continuing work of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as a global forum to disseminate knowledge and provide advice on industrial policies and strategies, successful industrialization experiences and best practices;

24. *Recognizes* the key role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting sustainable industrial development and industrial innovation and mainstreaming science and technology into national productive systems;

25. *Welcomes* the establishment, by its resolution 69/313, of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and the launch, by its resolution 70/1, of the Mechanism, and looks forward to further collaboration between Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

26. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as a platform for international industrial cooperation aiming to promote investments and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, to disseminate good policies and practices as well as to foster decent work, including for youth and women;

27. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to align its medium-term policy framework with the new quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle, as appropriate;

28. *Welcomes* the Programmes for Country Partnership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, already launched, as a promising model to foster inclusive and sustainable industrial development for its member States, and looks forward to its continued expansion to achieve greater geographic coverage with due consideration to the specific needs of different countries, as stipulated in the Lima Declaration;

29. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to assist developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, in participating in productive activities through, inter alia, the development of sustainable agro-industry and agribusiness that improves food security, eradicates hunger, creates jobs and is economically viable;

30. *Encourages* the promotion of South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation and the transfer, diffusion and adoption of technology on mutually agreed terms in building their engagement in international trade through the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

31. *Encourages* supporting the meeting of international product and process standards and the integration of women and youth into the development process;

32. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to support developing countries, upon request and in line with their development priorities, in achieving enhanced levels of inclusive and sustainable industrial development by assisting them in building sustainable productive and trade capacities, including through support for policies in the context of job creation and poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and in building institutional capacities for promoting environmentally sound and sustainable production, including through programmes on cleaner production, industrial water management, industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of efficient, modern and affordable forms of energy for productive use, especially in rural areas, and through continued cooperation with United Nations organizations and other organizations in order to support the achievement of multilateral environmental agreements and promote global goals on access to modern forms of energy, on energy efficiency and on renewable energy;

33. *Also encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue strengthening its role in assisting developing countries to create and disseminate knowledge by, inter alia, making use of its global network of investment and technology promotion offices, resource-efficient and cleaner production centres, centres for South-South industrial cooperation and international technology centres, as well as through its Institute for Capacity Development and its Networks for Prosperity initiative;

34. *Reiterates* the importance of promoting the creation and development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises as a strategy for achieving industrial development, economic dynamism, poverty and hunger eradication and job creation, including through the mobilization of resources and measures to foster sustainable and inclusive development, and in this regard recalls International Labour Organization recommendation No. 189 concerning job creation in small and medium-sized enterprises;

35. *Acknowledges* the importance of reporting on corporate sustainability, encourages companies, where appropriate, especially publicly listed and large companies, to consider integrating sustainability information into their reporting cycle, and encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to develop models for best practices and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences gained from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building;

36. *Welcomes* the ongoing support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[448] the African (Accelerated) Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and other programmes of the African Union aimed at further strengthening the industrialization process in Africa;

37. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the World Bank and the regional development banks to support industrial development through financial programmes, and encourages the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to work closely with regional development banks on the implementation of their regional strategies, including with the African Development Bank on the implementation of their industrialization strategy for Africa;

38. *Stresses* the importance of the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within its mandate, to support the efforts of middle-income countries to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, reduce inequalities and achieve sustainable development;

39. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to promote, within its mandate, its thematic priorities of creating shared prosperity, advancing economic competitiveness and safeguarding the environment, through its four enabling functions, which include technical cooperation; analytical and research and policy advisory services; normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and partnership-building for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation, with the aim of enhancing the quality of the services it provides to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with its medium-term programme framework 2016–2019 and taking into account the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other relevant development-related outcomes;

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[448] A/57/304, annex.

40. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Industrial development cooperation", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/243

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/468/Add.1, para. 13)[449]

71/243. Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

Expressing its resolve to use this review as the main instrument to better position United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a coherent and integrated manner in line with the mandates of the entities of the United Nations development system, and recognizing that this requires a United Nations development system that is more strategic, accountable, transparent, collaborative, efficient, effective and results-oriented,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[450] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[451] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015, and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[452] as well as all other outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing the vital role played by these conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives which have contributed to our understanding of, and our actions to overcome, the challenges to improving human life in different parts of the world,

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[449] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[450] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[451] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recognizing that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development, and that the development work of the entities of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates, through their support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, contributes to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their national ownership, plans and priorities,

Reaffirming the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, including the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality, women's empowerment, and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

Reaffirming also that promoting gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[453] and the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and resolutions of the General Assembly, including through investing in the development of women and girls and promoting their economic and political participation and equal access to economic and productive resources and education, is of fundamental importance and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Recalling its resolutions 44/211 of 22 December 1989, 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 52/203 of 18 December 1997, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 53/192 of 15 December 1998, 56/201 of 21 December 2001, 59/250 of 22 December 2004, 62/208 of 19 December 2007, 64/289 of 2 July 2010 and 67/226 of 21 December 2012,

Recalling also its resolutions 68/229 of 20 December 2013, 69/238 of 19 December 2014 and 70/221 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolutions 2013/5 of 12 July 2013, 2014/14 of 14 July 2014 and 2015/15 of 29 June 2015 and the role of the Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 65/285 of 29 June 2011 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Recalling its resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/290 of 9 July 2013, 68/1 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016, reaffirming the commitment to engage in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in accordance with the principles contained therein, and asserting that the high-level political forum on sustainable development would have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates,

Recognizing that relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, can positively contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and encouraging their contribution in supporting national development efforts in accordance with national plans and priorities,

Noting the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system and its contribution to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process,

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[452] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[453] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations development system,[454]

Taking note also of the relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit,

I

General guidelines

1. *Reaffirms* that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities for development are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development;

2. *Underscores* that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development, and calls upon the United Nations development system to enhance its efforts, in a flexible, timely, coherent, coordinated and integrated manner, and to pursue full alignment of operational activities for development at the country level with national development plans and strategies to strengthen national ownership and leadership at all stages of the operational activities of the United Nations development system in order for the entities to respond to national development needs and priorities in accordance with their mandates, while ensuring the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders at the national level;

3. *Recognizes* that the strength of the United Nations development system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner for all countries;

4. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries' development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

5. *Recognizes* that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global and regional programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of all countries, supported by an enabling economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and enhanced global economic governance, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership;

6. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen the United Nations development system with a view to enhancing its coherence and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations the full range of development challenges of our time, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[455] and that it must continue to adapt and respond to evolving development challenges and opportunities for development cooperation so that no one is left behind;

7. *Underlines* the important role and comparative advantage of an adequately resourced, relevant, coherent, efficient and effective United Nations development system in its support to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and sustainable development, and supports the process of the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates, to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals in their strategic planning documents and their work at all levels, taking into account that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and should therefore continue to be the highest priority for and underlying objective of the operational activities of the United Nations development system;

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[454] A/71/63-E/2016/8 and A/71/292/Rev.1.

[455] Resolution 70/1.

9. *Recognizes* that the individual entities of the United Nations development system have specific experience and expertise, derived from and in line with their mandates and strategic plans, and stresses in this regard that improvement of coordination and coherence at all levels should be undertaken in a manner that recognizes their respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of their resources and their unique expertise;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to support developing countries in their efforts to achieve internationally agreed development goals and their development objectives, and requests the system to address, within existing resources and mandates, the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, the need for special attention to countries in conflict and post-conflict situations and countries and peoples under foreign occupation, as well as the specific challenges facing the middle-income countries, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[476] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Urges* the United Nations development system to continue to enhance its support for the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020[477] and the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 of 2016,[478] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[479] and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[480] as well as the African Union Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[481] all of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream them fully into their operational activities for development;

12. *Underscores* the importance of results-based management, within and across entities and at all levels of the United Nations development system, as an essential element of accountability that can, inter alia, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and requests the United Nations development system and its individual entities to continue to strengthen results-based management, focusing on long-term development outcomes, developing common methodologies for planning and reporting on results, improving integrated results and resources frameworks, where appropriate, and enhancing a results culture in the entities of the United Nations development system;

13. *Calls upon* all entities of the United Nations development system to continue to promote women's empowerment and gender equality by enhancing gender mainstreaming through the full implementation of the System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, developed under the leadership of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the "scorecard"), in particular with regard to gender-responsive performance management and strategic planning, the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data, reporting and resource tracking, and drawing on available gender expertise in the system at all levels, including in UN-Women, to assist in mainstreaming gender equality in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework;

14. *Recognizes* the positive role that sustainable development can play in mitigating drivers of conflicts, disaster risks, humanitarian crises and complex emergencies, and that a comprehensive whole-of-system response, including greater cooperation and complementarity among development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action and sustaining peace, is fundamental to most efficiently and effectively addressing needs and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals;

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[476] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[477] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[478] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[479] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[480] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[481] A/57/304, annex.

15. *Notes* the importance of the contribution of the United Nations development system with the aim of supporting government efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, based on full respect for human rights, including the right to development, as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and stresses in this regard that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated;

II

Contribution of United Nations operational activities for development

16. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to support countries, upon their request, in the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account the different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities;

17. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as appropriate, into the work of each entity of the United Nations development system, in line with their respective mandates and respecting the intergovernmentally agreed decisions of their governing bodies, and in this regard urges the United Nations development system:

(a) To continue to allocate resources to realize the development objectives of developing countries, and to support the endeavour to reach the furthest behind first, while taking into account the universal and inclusive nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) To ensure a coherent approach to addressing the interconnections and cross-cutting elements across the Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

(c) To ensure a balanced and integrated approach within the system towards its support to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, in accordance with each entity's mandate and bearing in mind their comparative advantages, taking into account new and evolving development challenges and the need to build on lessons learned, address gaps, avoid duplication and overlap and strengthen the inter-agency approach in this regard;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to reflect their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in their strategic plans and similar planning documents, in close consultation with and for presentation to their respective governing bodies for approval, and in this regard requests each individual entity to elaborate on how it plans to engage in coherent and integrated support, as called for in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the entities of the United Nations development system, to carry out by June 2017 a system-wide outline of present functions, as defined in their strategic plans and similar planning documents, and existing capacities of all United Nations entities carrying out operational activities for development in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a view to identifying gaps and overlaps in coverage and providing recommendations for addressing them, identifying comparative advantages and improving the inter-agency approach, in accordance with their respective mandates;

20. *Also requests* the heads of the entities of the United Nations development system, under the leadership of the Secretary-General, to develop and present by the end of 2017 for consideration by the operational activities for development segment of the 2018 session of the Economic and Social Council, a system-wide strategic document translating those recommendations into concrete actions to adapt efficiently and coherently in order to improve their collective support to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as options for aligning funding modalities with the functions of the United Nations development system, to be reflected in the new strategic plans and similar planning documents of its entities;

21. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, at the request of national Governments, to improve their support to the building, development and strengthening of national capacities, to support development results at the country level and to promote national ownership and leadership, in line with

national development policies, plans and priorities, taking into account their respective mandates and bearing in mind their comparative advantages, including by, but not restricted to, carrying out the following functions:

(*a*) Providing evidence-based and, where appropriate, integrated policy advice to support countries in the implementation of, follow-up to and reporting on internationally agreed development goals and development-related frameworks, particularly by mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals into national plans, including by promoting sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection, and ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

(*b*) Assisting countries through normative support, as appropriate, in the context of operational activities for development of the United Nation system;

(*c*) Strengthening their support to national institutions in planning, management and evaluation capacities, as well as statistical capacities, to collect, analyse and increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts and address the gap in data collection and analysis, and in so doing utilizing these national capacities to the fullest extent possible in the context of United Nations operational activities for development;

(*d*) Assisting Governments in leveraging partnerships;

(*e*) Supporting, as appropriate, technical and scientific cooperation and North-South, South-South and triangular, regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology, innovation and knowledge-sharing, on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, including the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

22. *Reaffirms* the central role of Governments in contributing to the work of the United Nations development system, while recognizing the importance of the United Nations development system in increasing the capacity to engage in results-oriented innovative national, regional and global partnerships, with relevant stakeholders, encourages the United Nations development system to intensify its collaboration with these stakeholders, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 70/224 of 22 December 2015, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to share knowledge and best practices in partnership approaches with a view to improving transparency, coherence, due diligence, accountability and impact;

23. *Reiterates* that the United Nations development system should mainstream and enhance its support to South-South and triangular cooperation, at the request and with the ownership and leadership of developing countries, through a system-wide approach, taking into account that South-South cooperation is a complement to, rather than a substitute for, North-South cooperation, in line with the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;[402]

24. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system, in full compliance with their respective mandates, to enhance coordination with humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding efforts at the national level in countries facing humanitarian emergencies and in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and in this regard:

(*a*) Emphasizes that in countries facing humanitarian emergencies there is a need to work collaboratively to move beyond short-term assistance towards contributing to longer-term development gains, including by engaging, as appropriate, in joint risk analysis, needs assessments, practice response and a coherent multi-year time frame, with the aim of reducing need, vulnerability and risk over time, in compliance with international law and in line with resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the annex thereto and in accordance with national plans and priorities, stressing that this should not adversely affect resources for development;

(*b*) Emphasizes that development is a central goal in itself, and that in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations the development work of the entities of the United Nations development system can contribute to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, in accordance with national plans, needs and priorities and respecting national ownership, and stresses in this regard the need to improve coordination and synergy to maximize the impacts, results and effectiveness of support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, stressing that this should not adversely affect resources for development;

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[402] Resolution 64/222, annex.

III

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

25. *Recognizes* that the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires a more sustainable funding approach, and stresses the need for adequate quantity and quality of voluntary funding to continue to support the United Nations operational activities for development, as well as the need to improve funding practices to make voluntary funding more predictable, flexible, effective and efficient, less earmarked and better aligned with the national priorities and plans of programme countries, as reflected in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, as well as with the strategic plans and mandates of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in order to enable the United Nations development system to work at all levels in a coherent, coordinated and, where appropriate, integrated manner, reducing duplication and increasing impact;

26. *Stresses* that core resources are the bedrock of the United Nations operational activities for development, owing to their untied nature, and in this regard expresses concern at the continuing and accelerated decline in the amount of core contributions to the entities of the United Nations development system in recent years;

27. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of United Nations operational activities for development as a complement to, and not a substitute for, core resources, and should support and align with programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes, and also notes that non-core resources pose their own challenges by potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, unproductive competition and overlap among entities and/or providing disincentives for pursuing system-wide priorities, strategic positioning and coherence;

28. *Acknowledges* the efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, expresses concern that many countries still fall short of their official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

29. *Notes* that, notwithstanding efforts by the United Nations development system, the mandate contained in its resolution 67/226 with respect to the development and operationalization of the concept of "critical mass" of core resources has not been fulfilled as originally foreseen, and requests the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, as appropriate, that have not already done so to implement integrated results and resource frameworks aligned to their strategic plans in order to strengthen results-based budgeting and to help determine the level of resources and link resources to results for the entities of the United Nations development system to finance their strategic plans;

30. *Calls for* the enhancement of accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness in the funding of the United Nations operational activities for development in order to incentivize contributions by donor countries and other contributors, and calls upon United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to publish timely, harmonized and verifiable data on funding flows;

31. *Urges* donor countries, and encourages other contributors, to maintain and substantially increase their core contributions to the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

32. *Urges* Member States and other contributors providing non-core contributions, to the extent practicable, to make them more flexible and aligned with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, as well as the strategic plans of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to reduce transaction costs by, inter alia, streamlining and harmonizing requirements related to reporting, monitoring

and evaluation, to assign resources, as much as possible, at the beginning of the annual planning period, while encouraging multi-year duration of implementation of development-related activities, and to give priority to pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms applied at all levels and limit earmarking to broader, sector-specific activities in accordance with the national priorities of programme countries;

33. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system to continue enhancing the transparency and accountability of inter-agency pooled funding mechanisms, as well as to continue developing well-designed pooled funds, as a complement to agency-specific funds, that reflect and support common objectives and cross-cutting issues for United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and urges the entities of the United Nations development system to enhance their participation, where appropriate, in such funding mechanisms;

34. *Also urges* the entities of the United Nations development system, through their governing bodies, to take concrete steps to address on a continuous basis the decline of core contributions and the growing imbalance between core and non-core resources, including by, but not limited to:

(*a*) Exploring options on how to incentivize donor countries, other countries in a position to do so and other contributors to ensure an adequate and predictable level of core and non-core funding on a multi-year basis;

(*b*) Identifying, in the context of integrated results and resources frameworks, the level of resources adequate to produce the results expected in their strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme support costs;

(*c*) Exploring options to broaden and diversify the donor base in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors;

35. *Reaffirms* the principle of full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core resources, thereby avoiding the use of core or regular resources to subsidize activities financed by non-core or extrabudgetary resources, urges all entities of the United Nations development system, donor countries and other contributors to comply with existing cost recovery policies and rates whenever earmarked financial support is provided, calls upon those entities with approved cost recovery policies and rates to report annually on their implementation to their respective governing bodies, and invites the relevant entities of the United Nations development system to analyse and explore in a collaborative manner options for harmonized but differentiated cost recovery policies and rates, taking into account administrative costs related to different funding modalities based on common cost classification and cost recovery methodologies, as well as the most cost-efficient operations associated with entities' operations, for consideration by their respective governing bodies, as appropriate;

36. *Urges* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to mobilize resources for their operational activities for development to complement core resources by encouraging flexible, adequate, predictable and less earmarked funding, including through well-designed, transparent and accountable funding mechanisms;

37. *Urges* the United Nations development system to mobilize multiple funding sources and deepen partnerships with other relevant stakeholders, with a view to diversifying potential sources of funding, especially core funding, for operational activities for development, in alignment with the provisions of the present resolution;

38. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system to further explore innovative funding approaches to catalyse additional resources, and encourages in this regard the entities of the United Nations development system to share knowledge and best practices on innovative funding, taking into account the experiences of other multilateral institutions, and to include this information in their regular financial reporting;

39. *Recognizes* the need to further support the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, including through incentives for joint resource mobilization and programming, and stresses the need for efforts leading towards an integrated funding approach at the country level, where applicable, while paying due respect to different organizational mandates and modalities;

40. *Expresses its serious concern* at the fact that the share of expenditure for operational activities for development of the United Nations system in the least developed countries is declining, urges the United Nations development system to continue to prioritize allocations to least developed countries, while reaffirming that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced support to overcome structural challenges that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and requests the United

Nations development system to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies and to consider country-specific support for graduated countries for a fixed period of time and in a predictable manner;

41. *Encourages* developed and developing country partners, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide voluntary financial and technical assistance to the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries to ensure its effective operation, and urges the United Nations development system to continue to work in a coordinated manner and as appropriate to effectively operationalize the Technology Bank;

42. *Reaffirms* that an important role of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, both public and private, as well as to assist countries in strengthening domestic enabling environments, building essential public services and unlocking additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

43. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system, consistent with their mandates, to align their next integrated budgets with the present resolution and, in that context, to improve the functioning and effectiveness of the structured dialogues on how to fund the development results agreed in the strategic plans;

IV

Strengthening the governance of the United Nations operational activities for development

44. *Stresses* that the governance architecture of the United Nations development system must be more efficient, transparent, accountable and responsive to Member States and able to enhance coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the operational activities for development within and among all levels of the United Nations development system in order to enable system-wide strategic planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation to better support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

45. *Also stresses* the need to improve the governance of the United Nations development system, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Joint Inspection Unit, to present to the Economic and Social Council by the end of June 2017 for its consideration and to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session for review and further action a comprehensive report containing options, with an assessment of their implications, as well as advantages and disadvantages, for improving the accountability and overall coordination of the entities of the United Nations development system and their oversight by Member States, while paying due attention to the importance of ensuring collaboration between the entities under the mandates of the Assembly and the specialized agencies, including:

(*a*) Improving the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing overall guidance to and coordination of the United Nations development system, with a view to strengthening its effectiveness and avoiding duplication, in particular through the revitalization of its operational activities for development segment, so that the Council may better fulfil its mandate;

(*b*) Defining clear and accountable roles across the system and improving its transparency, accountability and responsiveness to Member States;

(*c*) Enhancing the transparency of the activities of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group to ensure their effective interaction with and improve their responsiveness to Member States, while respecting their working methods, particularly with regard to the implementation of cross-system issues, through regular briefings to the Economic and Social Council;

46. *Further stresses* the need to enhance system-wide coherence and efficiency, reduce duplication and build synergy across governing bodies of the entities of United Nations development system, and in this regard, calls upon:

(*a*) The respective bureaux to initiate discussions on improving the working methods of the joint meetings of the Executive Boards so that they offer a platform for exchange on issues with cross-cutting impact;

(*b*) Member States to initiate discussions on the working methods of the respective governing bodies in order to improve the efficiency, transparency and quality of official sessions, ensure more systematic follow-up by the entities of the United Nations development system on issues raised by their governing bodies and ensure timely follow-up on the implementation of the present resolution;

(*c*) Entities of the United Nations development system to adopt and abide by clear rules, including on the dissemination of all documents and draft decisions, thereby allowing adequate time for prior consultation with Member States in their decision-making processes;

V

Improving the functioning of the United Nations development system

47. *Affirms* the need to move towards integrated action in response to the integrated and indivisible nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while stressing the importance of strengthening national ownership and leadership by building on existing efforts to operate as a system within and among countries and at the regional and global levels, as well as enhancing the coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of operational activities for development, to address the needs and priorities of programme countries and in line with their respective national plans and strategies;

48. *Reaffirms* the central role and the importance of the active and full participation of national Governments in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, in order to enhance national ownership and achieve full alignment of operational activities with national priorities, challenges, planning and programming, and in this sense encourages national Governments to consult with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations;

49. *Requests* resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to strengthen consultation with national Governments and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations, in agreement with national Governments, with a view to ensuring that the development and implementation of all United Nations planning and programming documents are fully aligned with national development needs and priorities;

50. *Recognizes* that the presence of the entities of the United Nations development system at the country level should be tailored to meet the specific challenges and needs of programme countries, and in that regard requests the United Nations country teams, under the leadership of the resident coordinator:

(*a*) To strengthen the use of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, as a strategic instrument;

(*b*) To improve the focus on results, including common results, and the division of labour and enhance the inter-agency approach within the United Nations development system at the country level;

(*c*) To strengthen access to and benefit from the full range of mandates and resources of the United Nations development system, including, where appropriate, through hosting arrangements with the resident coordinator or with resident organizations;

(*d*) To use the common United Nations Development Assistance Framework guidance and, where appropriate, the standard operating procedures of the United Nations Development Group and the business operations strategies;

(*e*) To simplify the United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes in order to reduce fragmentation, overlaps and the transaction costs and workload of the entities of the United Nations development system, as well as the workload of national Governments and other stakeholders, including by decreasing the time necessary for the preparation of relevant documents;

(*f*) To present annual reports to the programme country Governments on the results achieved by the United Nations country team as a whole, structured around the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, and linked to national development results, and make such comprehensive, country-level, system-wide reports publicly available, with the consent of the national Governments;

(*g*) To strengthen joint programming processes and the use of joint programmes at the country level, where appropriate;

(*h*) To provide joint support for capacity-building on data collection, with a particular focus on disaggregated data collection and analysis;

(*i*) To avoid new and significantly reduce the number of existing parallel project implementation units in programme countries, as a means of building and strengthening national capacities, reducing transaction costs and avoiding overlaps, including by strengthening inter-agency efforts and building upon different coordination mechanisms;

51. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further simplify and harmonize agency-specific programming instruments, business practices, processes and reporting in alignment with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, by taking necessary steps at the headquarters level, as appropriate;

52. *Underscores* that entities within the United Nations development system should operate according to the principle of mutual recognition of best practices in terms of policies and procedures, with the aim of facilitating active collaboration across agencies and reducing transaction costs for Governments and collaborating agencies;

53. *Stresses* that the resident coordinator system, which encompasses all entities of the United Nations development system at the country level dealing with operational activities for development, while managed by the United Nations Development Programme, is owned by the United Nations development system as a whole and that its functioning should be participatory, collegial and mutually accountable within that system;

54. *Recognizes* the important role of the resident coordinator system in supporting government efforts, including to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities for development at the country level through the promotion of strategic support for national plans and priorities, enhancing sustainable development results, thus making operations more coherent and efficient, and reducing costs at the country level;

55. *Reiterates* the central role of the resident coordinators, working with the United Nations country team and under the leadership of Governments, in ensuring the coordination of United Nations operational activities for development at the country level, and stresses the need to ensure that resident coordinators have sufficient leadership, prerogative, impartiality, management tools, experience and skills sets to effectively fulfil their mandate;

56. *Calls upon* the resident coordinators in countries experiencing humanitarian emergencies, when the onset is sudden or where a humanitarian coordinator has not been designated or appointed, to work with humanitarian and development actors to provide, through a transparent, collaborative process, a joint, impartial, comprehensive and methodologically sound assessment of needs for each emergency to inform strategic decisions;

57. *Stresses* the importance of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the resident coordinator system to better coordinate the United Nations country team and to work collaboratively towards the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, in order to better respond to national plans and strategies, and, in addition to the provisions contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226, in this regard requests the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To further enhance the planning and coordination function of the resident coordinators by empowering them within the United Nations country team to make final decisions on the strategic objectives in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, in consultation with national Governments, as well as to substantially increase common resource mobilization and distribution at the country level where appropriate, including pooled resources, and contribute to the assessments of the United Nations country team members;

(*b*) To ensure that the entities of the United Nations development system at the country level periodically provide the resident coordinator with sufficient information on their activities in the field, in order to ensure better communication with the national Government without compromising the prerogative of the Government to communicate directly with the entities of the United Nations country team;

(*c*) To ensure the full implementation of the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system, including, in order to secure the impartiality and fairness of the resident coordinators, the full implementation of an effective functional firewall between the functions of the resident coordinator and the United Nations Development Programme resident representative, ensuring that the resident coordinator delegates responsibility for the operational activities and fundraising of an individual entity of the country team, and adjusting resident coordinator performance assessments accordingly;

(*d*) To duly inform the Governments of programme countries when the tenure of the resident coordinator is coming to an end, as well as about the selection process for the new resident coordinator, taking into account the general profile desired by Governments in the selection process;

(*e*) To ensure that the profiles and skills of resident coordinators align with the development needs and priorities of the programme countries, as well as the leadership and coordination requirements of the United Nations country team, and, to this end, to ensure a more open, transparent and merit-based management and recruitment process for the resident coordinator system that fosters gender balance, geographical diversity and participation from diverse entities of the United Nations development system, in particular by ensuring a more diverse array of candidates, and to provide appropriate training accordingly;

(*f*) To improve the capacity of the offices of the resident coordinators, including by avoiding duplication of efforts and maximizing the optimal use of resources within the United Nations country team, with a view to enhancing coherence and effectiveness at the country level through improved access of these offices to the expertise available within the United Nations development system to address national needs, priorities and challenges;

(*g*) To ensure appropriate funding support for the resident coordinator system, including through an effective and fair cost-sharing arrangement among United Nations development system entities, based on the cost of the coordination functions performed, and in this regard to ensure that all entities of the United Nations development system report on their use of the resident coordinator system and their contribution to the cost-sharing mechanism to their respective governing bodies;

(*h*) To mandate the United Nations country team members to report to the resident coordinator in relation to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, without prejudice to the accountability of the United Nations country team entities to their respective headquarters, and to ensure strong coherence, complementarity, cooperation and coordination within and between development and humanitarian activities;

(*i*) To ensure improved risk management within the system;

58. *Requests* the Secretary-General in this regard to prepare a comprehensive proposal on further improvements to the resident coordinator system administered by the United Nations Development Programme, with a view to ensuring, at all levels, sufficient leadership and prerogative over the United Nations country team, as well as impartiality, independence, funding and a proper dispute resolution mechanism, and to present it to the Economic and Social Council at the end of 2017 for its review and recommendations and to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session for further action;

59. *Requests* the United Nations development system to continue to support all programme countries, regardless of which modality for the delivery of assistance they prefer to adopt, in accordance with their development plans and priorities;

60. *Reaffirms* the "no one size fits all" approach and the principle of the voluntary adoption of the "Delivering as one" approach by the programme country, and requests the United Nations development system to enhance its cooperation for development to maximize the "Delivering as one" approach in the countries that choose it, including through lessons learned and by integrating programmatic and operational functions in order to enhance coherence, effectiveness, efficiency and the impact of country-level efforts;

61. *Welcomes* the achievements of the United Nations development system in promoting more effective integrated support, including delivering as one, and requests the United Nations development system to continue to deepen this approach in programme countries that have voluntarily adopted it, including opportunities to address cross-cutting issues, offer an integrated package of support, including specific programming support, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, pooled and flexible financing, as well as support for the resident coordinator system and simplification and harmonization of business practices, including ways to improve the effectiveness, impact and financing of a flexible, differentiated and multi-country presence;

62. *Encourages* the progressive implementation of standard operating procedures and business operating strategies;

63. *Reaffirms* that the successful implementation of the "Delivering as one" approach should not result in a decline in the total financial flows provided to countries that choose that approach, and that any potential savings in a country should be reallocated to programming tasks in that same country;

64. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to further its synergies and inter-agency efforts to maximize the use of the offices and resources on the ground and to avoid duplications and overlaps;

65. *Recognizes* the significant progress made by the United Nations development system in promoting harmonized business practices, including shared premises and joint back-office procurement, and the resulting efficiency savings achieved, and in this regard requests the entities of the United Nations development system to explore further opportunities for collaborative procurement at the global, regional and country levels;

66. *Requests* that the entities of the United Nations development system record details of efficiencies achieved through collaborative procurement and report them to their respective governing bodies in a consolidated format in the Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement;

67. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to review and tailor appropriately the role and operational activities of the multi-country offices, with a view to fully supporting national policies, projects and programmes as a priority for countries under their purview, in addition to operating as regional, subregional or country offices with varying degrees of programme and project coverage, and to consider, where possible and appropriate, limiting the number of countries under the coverage of each multi-country office;

68. *Recognizes* that the physical presence of the United Nations development system needs to be aligned with national needs, taking into account the demands of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed goals, as reflected in the agreed United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework, and ensure cost-effectiveness, and requests the United Nations development system in that regard to adopt flexible, cost-effective and collaborative models for its field presence, as appropriate;

69. *Also recognizes* the contribution of the regional commissions and of subregional, regional and interregional cooperation in addressing development challenges, and calls upon the United Nations regional commissions and the United Nations development system to fully implement the statement of collaboration between the United Nations Development Group and the United Nations regional commissions on support to Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

70. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to introduce or strengthen knowledge management strategies and policies, with a view to enhancing transparency and improving its capabilities to generate, retain, use and share knowledge, and move towards a system-wide open data collaborative approach for a common and accessible knowledge base;

71. *Calls for* greater efforts in this regard by the entities of the United Nations development system at both the country level and globally to share data and develop joint needs assessments and planning frameworks based on joint analysis and comparative advantages;

72. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender balance and on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard recalls its resolutions 46/232 of 2 March 1992 and 51/241 of 31 July 1997, adopted without a vote, which contain the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants and that, as a general rule, there should be no monopoly on senior posts in the United Nations system by nationals of any State or group of States;

73. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments within the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels for positions that affect operational activities for development, including appointments to resident coordinator and other high-level posts, with due regard to the representation of women from programme countries, in particular developing countries, while keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographic representation;

74. *Urges* the United Nations development system to align its staff capacities to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by building transformative and empowered leadership,

repositioning staff capacities to respond to the cross-sectoral requirements of the 2030 Agenda, promoting inter-agency mobility and facilitating a mobile and flexible global workforce;

75. *Underscores* the importance of strengthening a high-quality, independent and impartial system-wide evaluation mechanism of operational activities for development that enhances coherence and interdependence in the overall evaluation architecture of the United Nations development system, also underscores the importance of using its findings and recommendations to improve the functioning of the system, and in this regard invites the Economic and Social Council to consider the outcome of the ongoing independent review of the independent system-wide evaluation policy;

VI

Follow-up, monitoring and reporting

76. *Affirms* that the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires a United Nations development system that works in a coordinated and coherent manner, while preserving each entity's mandate and role and leveraging each entity's expertise, and in this regard calls upon the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to support the system-wide implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

77. *Notes* the advances made in the implementation of resolution 67/226, and calls upon the United Nations development system to address the remaining challenges, based on lessons learned and taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

78. *Reaffirms* that all entities of the United Nations development system carrying out operational activities for development should align their planning and activities, including through their governing bodies where applicable, to take appropriate action consistent with each entity's mandate, role and expertise for the full implementation of the present resolution;

79. *Stresses* the importance of comprehensive and effective monitoring and reporting of system-wide and individual-entity strategic planning and implementation of the provisions of the present resolution to ensure coherent and coordinated support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals by the United Nations development system, and in this regard requests the entities of the United Nations development system carrying out operational activities for development to ensure that their planning and activities, and strategic plans where applicable, are consistent with and guided by the provisions of the present resolution, in order to build synergies and reduce overlap across the system, and clearly identify the entity's specific contribution to the system-wide support provided by the United Nations development system, including how staff are incentivized to work towards system-wide goals;

80. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the analytical quality of system-wide reporting on funding, performance and programme results for the United Nations operational activities for development, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard calls for the publication of timely, reliable, verifiable and comparable system-wide and entity-level data, definitions and classifications;

81. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present to the Economic and Social Council in 2018 and 2019 a report on system-wide implementation of the provisions of the present resolution and the results achieved, and to make other recommendations to further strengthen system-wide reporting;

82. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, based on the reports of the Secretary-General, to provide overall coordination and guidance to the United Nations development system and propose to the General Assembly recommendations to improve the overall progress in the full implementation of the provisions of the present resolution through the annual follow-up resolution on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

83. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and in cooperation with United Nations resident coordinators and in an appropriate and cost-effective manner, to conduct a biennial survey, directed to Governments on a voluntary basis, on the quality, relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the support of the United Nations development system for national development priorities and plans in order to provide feedback on the strengths and main challenges encountered in the interaction of Governments with the United Nations development system, with a view to enabling intergovernmental bodies to address them and enhance their support at the country level, and requests that the results of such surveys be published and made available to Member States;

84. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of mandates contained in Assembly resolution 67/226 and the subsequent follow-up resolutions that remain unfulfilled.

RESOLUTION 71/244

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/468/Add.2, para. 9)[463]

71/244. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Reaffirming also its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[464]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009, 66/219 of 22 December 2011, 67/227 of 21 December 2012, 68/230 of 20 December 2013, 69/239 of 19 December 2014 and 70/222 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[465] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[466] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting that 2018 will mark the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action,

Recognizing that South-South cooperation is increasingly critical to bolstering the productive capacities of developing countries and has positive impacts on trade and financial flows, technological capabilities and economic growth, and reiterating the importance of global partnerships,

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[463] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[464] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[465] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[466] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Noting with appreciation the designation of the Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation,

1. *Takes note* of the decisions adopted by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its nineteenth session, held from 16 to 19 May 2016;[467]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation,[468] as well as his report entitled "Comprehensive proposal on concrete ways to enhance the role and impact of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as well as the key measures taken to improve the coordination and coherence of United Nations support to South-South cooperation";[469]

3. *Recognizes* that the Joint Inspection Unit, in its report on South-South and triangular cooperation in the United Nations system,[470] provided recommendations to the United Nations development system on implementing measures to further strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and in this regard requests continued effort to implement those recommendations that remain unfulfilled;

4. *Requests* the Joint Inspection Unit to present, by the end of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, a progress report on its recommendations to the United Nations development system on implementing measures to further strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

5. *Recognizes* the importance and unique history and particularities of South-South cooperation, reaffirms its view of South-South cooperation as a manifestation of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South that contributes to their national well-being, national and collective self-reliance and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, which build upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seek to address their unfinished business, and also reaffirms that South-South cooperation and its agenda must be set by countries of the South and should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

6. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

7. *Welcomes* the increased contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, encourages developing countries to voluntarily step up their efforts to strengthen South-South cooperation and to further improve its development effectiveness, in accordance with the provisions of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,[471] and welcomes commitments to strengthen triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

8. *Reaffirms* that South-South cooperation is a common endeavour of peoples and countries of the South, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on their common objectives and solidarity and guided by, inter alia, the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership, free from any conditionalities, that South-South cooperation should not be seen as official development assistance and that it is a partnership among equals based on solidarity, acknowledges in this regard the need to enhance the development effectiveness of South-South cooperation by continuing to increase its mutual accountability and transparency as well as coordinating its initiatives with other development projects and programmes on the ground, in accordance with national development plans and priorities, and recognizes that the impact of South-South cooperation should be assessed with a view to improving, as appropriate, its quality in a results-oriented manner;

9. *Encourages* the continued integration of South-South and triangular cooperation into the policies and strategic frameworks of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, and requests

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[467] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/71/39), chap. I.

[468] A/71/208.

[469] SSC/19/2.

[470] A/66/717.

[471] Resolution 64/222, annex.

those funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system that have not yet integrated South-South and triangular cooperation into their policies to do so, taking into account the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[472] and the complementary nature of South-South to North-South cooperation;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to make specific recommendations on additional support that United Nations system organizations and all States could provide to South-South and triangular cooperation, which could include the voluntary secondment of staff and the appointment of Junior Professional Officers to the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, as well as measures to strengthen the system-wide efficiency and impact of the Office;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make necessary adjustments, as appropriate, to the framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation,[473] in consultation with all States and organizations of the United Nations development system;

12. *Reaffirms* the mandate and the central role of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation as the focal point for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis;

13. *Reiterates* the request to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to establish a more formalized and strengthened inter-agency mechanism, coordinated by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, with a view to encouraging joint support to South-South and triangular initiatives and sharing information on development activities and results achieved by various organizations through their respective business models in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, calls upon the United Nations development system to designate representational focal points to join the mechanism, requests the Administrator to give the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation the opportunity to be represented more regularly in strategic and coordination mechanisms of the United Nations Development Group when matters affecting South-South and triangular cooperation are being discussed, and in this regard welcomes the progress made by the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team of the United Nations Development Group to this effect;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations of the United Nations development system to assist developing countries in implementing projects of South-South cooperation, including sharing best practices and experiences from the South, especially with the least developed countries, upon request and in a manner consistent with their mandates and strategic plans;

15. *Invites* the United Nations development system to encourage the transfer of technologies on mutually agreed terms for the benefit of developing countries to address poverty eradication and sustainable development;

16. *Welcomes* the launch, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and looks forward to its continued development and full operationalization;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Development Group, including its South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team, and the United Nations country teams, within existing resources and in close consultation and coordination with the Governments of developing countries and other international organizations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue the mapping and documentation of good practices in South-South and triangular cooperation, in particular those that are relevant to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, taking into account the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda[474] and the complementary nature of South-South to North-South cooperation;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the eighth annual Global South-South Development Expo, held from 31 October to 3 November 2016, hosted by the Government of the United Arab Emirates, on the theme "Enhancing

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[472] Resolution 70/1.

[473] SSC/17/3.

[474] Resolution 69/313, annex.

innovation towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", showcasing sustainable development solutions that can be scaled up and replicated through South-South and triangular cooperation;

19. *Recognizes* the important role of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, and in this context requests the Secretary-General, with the support of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to take steps, within existing resources, to update existing and to create appropriate new policy tools in order that the United Nations system may effectively support Member States, upon request, in using South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to assist in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

20. *Acknowledges* the positive efforts made by United Nations organizations to develop thematic strategies for the implementation of South-South cooperation, and in this regard urges the United Nations development system, in consultation with all States, to strive to increasingly leverage, as appropriate, South-South cooperation to bolster its impact in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Requests* the United Nations system to enhance its support in the areas where South-South cooperation has proved effective, namely, capacity-building, policy coordination, regional integration, interregional linkages, infrastructure interconnectivity and the development of national productive capacities through exchanges of knowledge and technological innovations;

22. *Welcomes* the support provided by developing countries to South-South and triangular initiatives aimed at improving nutrition and food security, and invites the replication of this approach in other relevant areas, drawing on the technical expertise of various United Nations organizations;

23. *Notes* that, in response to the growing demand for support to South-South cooperation at the regional and subregional levels, the regional commissions have advanced South-South cooperation by undertaking policy research and analysis on issues of importance to their member States, convening high-level policy dialogues, forging strategic partnerships and promoting specific capacity-development and other initiatives, and in this regard invites the regional commissions to support developing countries, upon request, in integrating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into their nationally owned sustainable development strategies, in areas such as regional development planning and fiscal frameworks, and to help to promote policy coherence and coordination and the enhancement of the data and statistical capacities of Member States for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

24. *Reaffirms* that South-South cooperation embraces a multi-stakeholder approach, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia and other actors that contribute to meeting development challenges and objectives in line with national development strategies and plans;

25. *Urges* the United Nations system to continue its support to regional and subregional organizations, enabling their member countries to build more partnerships and cross-border frameworks with a view to promoting and scaling up best practices with the potential to benefit a large number of developing countries;

26. *Welcomes* the growing number of forums convened for Governments and other policymakers to discuss, in a participatory and inclusive manner, South-South cooperation initiatives and their contribution towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including addressing challenges, lessons learned and good practices in key areas;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present, as part of his comprehensive report to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its twentieth session, in consultation with all States, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant agencies, recommendations and an update on the concrete steps taken to strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, taking into account the need to enhance the role and improve the impact of the Office under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme, including in the areas of financial, human and budgetary resources and through the potential appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation, as well as to clarify the management relationships, reporting lines and functions and to improve transparency, accountability and efficiency, taking into account matters covered in the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation on its nineteenth session,[475] Committee decision 19/1 of 19 May 2016[476]

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[475] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/71/39).

and decision 2016/13 of 10 June 2016 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services;[476]

28. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize adequate resources for enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation, and in this context invites all countries in a position to do so to contribute, in support of such cooperation, to the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation and to the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation, in accordance with its resolution 57/263 of 20 December 2002, and to support other initiatives for all developing countries, including technology transfers among developing countries;

29. *Requests* the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation to effectively provide the secretariat required by States in marking the fortieth anniversary of the adoption in 1978 of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;[464]

30. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen and further invigorate South-South cooperation, in this regard decides to convene, within extrabudgetary resources and making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system, a high-level United Nations conference on South-South cooperation on the occasion of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, to be held no later than the first half of 2019, and requests the President of the General Assembly to undertake the necessary intergovernmental negotiations in order to prepare for the proposed conference, with a view to the adoption by the Assembly, before the end of 2017, of a resolution on the nature, date, objectives and modalities of the conference, in full compliance with, and under the principles of, the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

31. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Government of Argentina to host a high-level United Nations conference on South-South cooperation;

32. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", unless otherwise agreed, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation, including an assessment of the concrete measures taken by the United Nations development system to improve its support to South-South cooperation at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, and on the implementation of the present resolution, including all aspects contained in paragraph 27 above, on an exceptional basis and without setting any precedent for future reports of the Secretary-General.

RESOLUTION 71/245

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/469, para. 17)[477]

71/245. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010, 66/220 of 22 December 2011, 67/228 of 21 December 2012, 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 69/240 of 19 December 2014 and 70/223 of 22 December 2015,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[478] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[479] as well as the Framework for

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[476] See DP/2016/19.

[477] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[478] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[479] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex I.

Action,[480] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[481] Agenda 21,[482] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[483] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[484] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[485] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[486] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[487] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[488] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020[489] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[490]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[491]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[492] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[493] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[480] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex II.

[481] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[482] Ibid., annex II.

[483] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[484] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[485] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[486] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[487] Resolution 60/1.

[488] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[489] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[490] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[491] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[492] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[493] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Welcoming also the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on antimicrobial resistance, held in New York on 21 September 2016, and its political declaration, as set out in resolution 71/3 of 5 October 2016, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the World Health Organization global action plan on antimicrobial resistance,[494]

Expressing concern that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, inequity and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting the African Union's Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Welcoming the outcome of the forty-third session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 17 to 21 October 2016, taking note of the endorsement by the Committee in 2014 of the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[495] recalling its Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[496] and taking note of the adoption of the policy recommendations on connecting smallholders to markets and on sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock,

Taking note of the launch of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme under the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable food systems,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Recalling the declaration of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to identify and develop a work programme for 2016–2025, taking into account contributions from relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, using coordinating mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

Reaffirming that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism, and recognizing that, as stated in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration of the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, there remains a strong commitment of all members to advance negotiations on the remaining Doha issues, including advancing work in all three pillars of agriculture, namely, domestic support, market access and export competition,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations,

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[494] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

[495] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

[496] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

Remaining deeply concerned that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about 793 million people around the world are undernourished and that global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex as multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, may coexist within the same country or household,

Noting that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and that, as a result, eradicating hunger, improving food security and ensuring adequate nutrition are being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy, the Piura Declaration on Food Security, the Framework for Multi-Year Programme on Food Security and Climate Change and the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth, adopted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, and the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain, and also noting the establishment of the Islamic Organization for Food Security, headquartered in Astana,

Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, in particular for women and youth, as well as the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition,

Reiterating also the importance, inter alia, of empowering rural women, youth, small-scale farmers and family farmers, fishers and fish workers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Acknowledging that social protection programmes and measures are effective in reducing poverty and hunger,

Welcoming the implementation of the International Year of Pulses, 2016, and noting the need to increase public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses and to further sustainable agriculture and food systems,

Recognizing the need to increase responsible public and private investment in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to find inclusive solutions to and fight hunger and malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,[497] and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

Noting the Committee on World Food Security Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises, the Committee's policy recommendations on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition and its policy recommendations on food losses and waste in the context of sustainable food systems,

Taking note with appreciation of the publication entitled *The State of Food and Agriculture 2016: Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

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[497] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[498]

2. *Stresses* the importance of continued consideration of the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and encourages Member States and all stakeholders to give due consideration to this issue while implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[499] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Emphasizes* that sustainable agricultural production, food security and nutrition are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to sustainably enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its support for the implementation of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes;

6. *Encourages* Member States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition[479] as well as the Framework for Action,[480] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

7. *Welcomes* the increased political commitment by Member States to tackle hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in this regard welcomes the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to further reduce global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under age 2;

8. *Also welcomes* the six global nutrition targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition;

9. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this goal, as well as the second Nutrition for Growth event, which was held in August 2016;

10. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge and the aim of a world free from hunger, and recognizes the progress made in improving cooperation, coordination and coherence by all stakeholders to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition;

11. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing responsible public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition outcomes and reducing inequality;

12. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, bearing in mind the importance of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of

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[498] A/71/283.

[499] Resolution 70/1.

food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and measures to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security, and takes note of the importance of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

14. *Recognizes* that sustainable food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of internationally consistent national policies, aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming food systems so as to make nutritious diets available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

15. *Also recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries;

16. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for enhancing food security and access to adequate, safe and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly inhabitants of small island developing States;

17. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

18. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions of work, and to guarantee their personal security, full access to land and natural resources and access to local, regional and global markets;

19. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

20. *Recognizes* the important role of indigenous peoples, local communities, small-scale farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well the important role of new technologies in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

21. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, in conflict and post-conflict situations and in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social

services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

22. *Recognizes* that, by 2050, the world urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the most transformative trends of the twenty-first century, underscoring the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor through promoting the integration of the food security and nutrition needs of urban residents, in particular the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition, promoting the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways, to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste, and promoting the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste;

23. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

24. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of funding for such research from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector, to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis and shock, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to and mitigate climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

25. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security and nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, especially small-scale farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

26. *Also stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, including with the support of the Secretary-General's High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

27. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be further strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

28. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a major intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together towards ensuring food security and nutrition for all, and notes the role that the Committee could play in support of the integrated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and malnutrition;

29. *Encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[496] as well as the voluntary Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[495] as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012 and 2014, respectively;

30. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no one is left behind and no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 71/246

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/469, para. 17)[500]

71/246. Sustainable Gastronomy Day

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Acknowledging that gastronomy is a cultural expression related to the natural and cultural diversity of the world, and reaffirming that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to and are crucial enablers of sustainable development,

Affirming the need to focus the world's attention on the role that sustainable gastronomy can play, owing to its interlinkages with the three dimensions of sustainable development, in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including by promoting agricultural development, food security, nutrition, sustainable food production and the conservation of biodiversity,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

1. *Decides* to designate 18 June as Sustainable Gastronomy Day;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe Sustainable Gastronomy Day, in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise public awareness of its contribution to sustainable development;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of Sustainable Gastronomy Day in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, and stresses that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.

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[500] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

RESOLUTION 71/247

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 21 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/470, para. 14),[501] by a recorded vote of 168 to 7, with 11 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, South Sudan, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu

71/247. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/225 of 22 December 2015, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/14 of 25 July 2016,

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Bearing in mind its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[502] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[503] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[503] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

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[501] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Turkey.

[502] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[503] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[504] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties, as well as to other international treaties,

Expressing its concern about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

Expressing its grave concern also about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip during the military operations of July and August 2014, which, inter alia, has polluted the environment and which negatively affects the functioning of water and sanitation systems and the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people, and stressing the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water and other vital civilian infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip,

Expressing its grave concern further about the negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts of unexploded ordnance that remains in the Gaza Strip as a result of the conflict in July and August 2014, and commending the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations for the safe removal of such ordnance,

Expressing its grave concern about the chronic energy shortage in the Gaza Strip and its detrimental impact on the operation of water and sanitation facilities, which threaten to further erode groundwater resources, of which only 5 per cent remains potable,

Recalling the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and the 2012 and 2016 reports by the United Nations country team, entitled "Gaza in 2020: a liveable place?" and "Gaza: two years after", respectively, and stressing the need for follow up to the recommendations contained therein,

Deploring the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[505]

Aware of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[506] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[507] as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

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[504] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[505] A/HRC/22/63.

[506] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Stressing also, in this regard, the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Stressing further the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,[508]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[504] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease immediately and completely all policies and measures aimed at the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to bring a halt to all actions, including those perpetrated by Israeli settlers, harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, and to cease its demolition and confiscation of Palestinian homes and civilian infrastructure, agricultural lands and water wells, which, inter alia, have a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people, stresses the urgent need to advance reconstruction and development projects in this regard, including in the Gaza Strip, and calls for support for the necessary efforts in this regard, in line with the commitments made at, inter alia, the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles to the implementation of critical environmental projects, including sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip and the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;

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[507] S/2003/529, annex.

[508] A/71/86-E/2016/13.

9. *Also calls upon* Israel not to impede Palestinian development and export of discovered oil and natural gas reserves;

10. *Calls for* the immediate and safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip and for support for the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in this regard, and welcomes the extensive efforts exerted by the Mine Action Service to date;

11. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities and the exploitation of natural resources;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

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RESOLUTION 71/162

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/476, para. 27)[1]

71/162. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[2] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[3] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Welcoming the progress made towards the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action through concerted action at the national, regional and global levels, and expressing its deep concern that, more than 20 years after the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, progress has been slow and uneven, and major gaps remain,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme "Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results" and the ministerial declaration of the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme "Ensuring that no one is left behind",[4]

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/71/3), chap. V, sect. F.

Welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the priority theme for the 2017–2018 review and policy cycle, which shall allow the Commission for Social Development to contribute to the work of the Council, will be "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all",[5]

Welcoming also the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission for Social Development will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the Council in order to contribute to its work,[6]

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling also its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009, entitled "Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development",

Reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development[7] also informs the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with other relevant instruments, and noting with appreciation the commemoration in 2016 of the thirtieth anniversary of its adoption,

Reaffirming also the importance of supporting the African Union's development framework, Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[8] and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[9] in which the particular role of the Organization in promoting fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts were acknowledged, as well as in the Global Jobs Pact,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Recognizing that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

Recognizing also that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

Expressing deep concern that attainment of the social development objectives is being hindered by the adverse effects of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and the challenges posed by climate change,

Recognizing the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity,

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[5] Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/6, para. 6.

[6] Ibid., para. 3.

[7] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[8] A/57/304, annex.

[9] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

Acknowledging the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities within and among countries, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable and inclusive social development and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources,

Deeply concerned that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger and malnutrition, vulnerability to trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are particularly severe in developing countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

Recognizing the importance of the international community in supporting national capacity-building efforts in the area of social development, while recognizing the primary responsibility of national Governments in this regard,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these strategies and policies should constitute fundamental components of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

Recognizing the need to enhance access to the benefits of trade, including agricultural trade, for developing countries in order to foster social development,

Recognizing also that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[2] in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and recognizes that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals are mutually reinforcing;

3. *Also welcomes* the adoption, in its entirety, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[11] which recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, including goals and targets aimed at the promotion of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all and the reduction of inequalities within and among countries;

4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

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[10] A/70/173.

[11] Resolution 70/1.

5. *Expresses deep concern* that the adverse effects of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and food insecurity and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations, have negative implications for social development;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, while engaging all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feeding into and being aligned with the cycle of the high-level political forum, according to the organizational arrangements to be established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[12] the 2005 World Summit on Social Development, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, in its Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[13] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[14] and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

9. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,[15] underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[8]

10. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities;

11. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

12. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade fell short of expectations, and recalls the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, which include the Sustainable Development Goals;

13. *Emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should tackle poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity, inclusivity, the reduction of inequalities and the empowerment of the poor need to be incorporated into those policies;

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[12] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[13] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[14] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[15] Resolution 60/1, para. 68.

14. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

15. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space and leadership of national Governments for implementing policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular in the areas of social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies by, among other things, providing debt relief within the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

16. *Also stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity and inclusion in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

17. *Further stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

18. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

19. *Stresses* the importance of economic, social and cultural rights and the importance of the principles of non-discrimination, inclusivity and meaningful participation for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;

20. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger and malnutrition, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

21. *Encourages* Governments to promote effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies, in order to better achieve the goals of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work and social integration;

22. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, including respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, also reaffirms that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities and that human resources development strategies should be premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy, and further reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

23. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

24. *Also stresses* the importance of establishing a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, supporting all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States and respect their territorial integrity and political independence, and refraining in international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

25. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, recognizes that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, and further recognizes that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

26. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

27. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

28. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore an important objective of international cooperation, and supports the promotion of innovative approaches in the design and implementation of employment policies and programmes for all, including the long-term unemployed;

29. *Encourages* States to design and implement policies and strategies for poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all, including the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, as well as policies and strategies for social integration that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and address the specific needs of social groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and indigenous peoples, taking into account the concerns of those groups in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes and policies;

30. *Stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

31. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

32. *Recognizes* the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services;

33. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship;

34. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[16] the World Programme of Action for Youth,[17] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[18] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[19] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[20]

35. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be inclusive and distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

36. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

37. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

38. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

39. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, noting the role of sports in this regard, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

40. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors;

41. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner;

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[16] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[17] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[19] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[20] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

42. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

43. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

44. *Acknowledges* the role that the public sector can play as an employer and its importance in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

45. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work for all, and encourages the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, to contribute to decent work for all and job creation for both women and men, and particularly for young people, including through partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

46. *Recognizes* that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, giving priority to agricultural and non-farm sectors, and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

47. *Stresses* that more concerted efforts are required to boost smallholder productivity in a sustainable manner, including scaling up public investments in agriculture, attracting responsible private investment in agriculture, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and ensuring that smallholder farmers, in particular women, have access to the necessary resources, assets and markets and to cross-cutting agricultural technologies;

48. *Recognizes* the need to pay necessary attention to the social development of people in urban areas, especially the urban poor;

49. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable development, including sustainable agricultural development, and a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

50. *Reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

51. *Underlines* that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, recognizes its increased importance, different history and particularities, and stresses that it should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

52. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

53. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

54. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition;

55. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources, and that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other public and private sources, and that ODA providers reaffirm their respective commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

56. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, welcomes those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

57. *Stresses* the essential role that ODA plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

58. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

59. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines;

60. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work for all and job creation, including green jobs initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

61. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, emphasizes that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights, applicable laws, international principles and standards, to operate transparently, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and to refrain from affecting the well-being of peoples, and also emphasizes the need to take further concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption, and to prevent human rights abuses;

62. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on

Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[21] invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

63. *Reaffirms* the importance of rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world by, inter alia, appraising progress made, identifying gaps and challenges in achieving the internationally agreed social development goals and realizing opportunities for social development;

64. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,[22] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

65. *Welcomes* the meeting convened on 5 February 2015 by the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-third session, the meeting of the Economic and Social Council convened on 8 June 2015 and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly convened on 11 December 2015, in commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development;

66. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize, in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned and to remain actively engaged in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its social dimension;

67. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", with a special focus on trends in inequality within and among countries, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

RESOLUTION 71/163

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/476, para. 27)[23]

71/163. Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012, 68/136 of 18 December 2013 and 69/144 of 18 December 2014 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

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[21] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[22] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

[23] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Turkey and Uzbekistan.

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provided a useful opportunity to continue to raise awareness of the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation on family issues at all levels and for undertaking concerted action to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing also that the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes, especially those relating to family policies in the areas of poverty, work-family balance and intergenerational issues, with attention given to the rights and responsibilities of all family members, can contribute to ending poverty, ending hunger, ensuring a healthy life and promoting well-being for all at all ages, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, ensuring better education outcomes for children, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Acknowledging that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing the efforts made by Governments, the United Nations system, regional organizations and civil society, including academic institutions, to fulfil the objectives guiding the preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national, regional and international levels,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[24]

2. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues;

3. *Invites* Member States to invest in a variety of family-oriented policies and programmes, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[25]

4. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities;

5. *Encourages* greater collaboration between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as the enhancement of research efforts and awareness-raising activities relating to the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes;

6. *Calls upon* Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to continue providing information on their activities, including on good practices, in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, on an exceptional basis, and a report to the Assembly at its seventy-third session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes by Member States and by agencies and bodies of the United Nations system;

8. *Decides* to consider the topic "Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes" at its seventy-second session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".

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[24] A/70/61-E/2015/3 and A/71/61-E/2016/7.

[25] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 71/164

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/476, para. 27)[26]

71/164. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[27] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing,[28] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010, 66/127 of 19 December 2011, 67/139 and 67/143 of 20 December 2012, 68/134 of 18 December 2013, 69/146 of 18 December 2014 and 70/164 of 17 December 2015,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[29]

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[30] and stressing the need to ensure that issues of relevance to older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

Noting the recent regional developments on the protection and promotion of the human rights of older persons, including the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Noting also that, between 2015 and 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over is projected to grow by 56 per cent, from 901 million to 1.4 billion, and that this increase will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world, and recognizing that greater attention needs to be paid to the specific challenges affecting older persons, including in the field of human rights,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions on ageing, specifically resolution 58.16 of 25 May 2005 on strengthening active and healthy ageing,[31] which stressed the important role of public health policies and programmes in enabling the rapidly growing number of older persons to remain in good health and maintain their many vital contributions to the well-being of their families, communities and societies, resolution 65.3 of 25 May 2012 on strengthening non-communicable disease policies to promote active ageing,[32] which recognized that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases, and resolution 69.3 of 29 May 2016, entitled "The Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life",[33]

Acknowledging that many developing countries and countries with economies in transition are confronting a double burden of fighting emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, in parallel with the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases, and expressing concern about the impact on older persons,

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Austria, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[27] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[28] Ibid., annex II.

[29] A/70/185.

[30] Resolution 70/1.

[31] See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.

[32] See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

[33] See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

Concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including the need for preventive, curative, palliative and specialized care,

Deeply concerned that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and noting with concern the high incidence of poverty among them,

Recognizing the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda if adequate guarantees are in place,

Concerned about the multiple forms of discrimination that may affect older persons and their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly those in vulnerable groups or situations, and noting that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from gender inequality,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/5 of 8 June 2015, in which the Council invited Member States to identify actions they had taken since the second review and appraisal exercise of the Madrid Plan of Action, with the aim of presenting that information to the regional commissions during 2017, and invited each Member State to decide for itself the actions or activities it intended to review, utilizing a bottom-up participatory approach,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration[27] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;[28]

2. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[30] and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach to improving the well-being of older persons, and in this regard encourages Member States to seize this opportunity to take into account issues of relevance to older persons in their efforts to promote the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Recognizes* that the major challenges faced by older persons undermine their social, economic and cultural participation;

4. *Also recognizes* the challenges related to the enjoyment of all human rights that older persons face in different areas and that those challenges require in-depth analysis and action to address protection gaps, and calls upon all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for older persons, including by progressively taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, to provide social protection, access to food and housing, health care, employment, legal capacity and access to justice and to address issues related to social integration and gender inequality, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and stresses the importance of close coordination between the work of the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of their respective mandates and those of other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Human Rights Council, and relevant United Nations bodies and treaty bodies;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert issued during the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council,[34] also takes note of the comprehensive report issued during the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council,[35] which was brought to the attention of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing at its seventh session, and encourages Member States to be mindful of the recommendations contained therein;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to share their national experiences in developing and implementing policies and programmes aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons, including within the framework of the Open-ended Working Group;

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[34] A/HRC/30/43.

[35] A/HRC/33/44.

8. *Encourages* Governments to actively address, through national, regional and international efforts, issues that affect older persons and to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

9. *Invites* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies and to systematically review and amend, where appropriate, existing practices and regulations that discriminate against older persons in order to promote an enabling environment for older persons;

10. *Encourages* Member States to address the issue of discrimination on the basis of age in relevant national legislation and to take appropriate measures to prevent discrimination against older persons;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, in accordance with their national priorities, equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health care and family planning, education, culture and information and communications technologies, and to ensure that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of older persons, while recognizing that planning for and providing opportunities for making cities inclusive of older persons' economic and social participation is an important dimension of the construction of sustainable cities;

12. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication measures, women's empowerment strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

13. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacities to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by considering and devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

14. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacities to address ageing;

15. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies and by working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

16. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling the follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

17. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies that create national policy ownership and consensus-building;

18. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated when necessary by relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to improve assessment of the situation of older persons, and recognizes that the data revolution presents new opportunities and challenges for the use of new data to help with the measurement of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, and to ensure that no one is left behind;

19. *Recommends* that States parties to existing international human rights instruments, where appropriate, address the situation of older persons more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders, in accordance with their mandates, to pay more attention to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, in their consideration of reports or in their country missions;

20. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

22. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women;

23. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, where applicable;

25. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, sex or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, women and persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

26. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services does not expose older persons to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized;

27. *Urges* Member States to develop, implement and evaluate policies and programmes that promote healthy and active ageing and the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for older persons and to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing national health systems;

28. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including for home-based care;

29. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health care and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to address the issue of the well-being of and adequate health care for older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, in particular older women, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and by developing coherent and comprehensive policy frameworks to address these problems and their underlying factors;

31. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[36]

32. *Stresses* that, in complementing national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation, in particular North-South cooperation, which is complemented by South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of such assistance as well as the provision of financial assistance;

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[36] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

33. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

34. *Recommends* that Governments involve older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them;

35. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

36. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

37. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information with regard to a gender perspective on ageing;

38. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, as well as regional initiatives, and by institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

39. *Requests* the focal point on ageing of the United Nations system, the Programme on Ageing of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to enhance its collaboration with the focal points of the regional commissions, funds and programmes, and recommends that Member States reaffirm the roles of focal points within the United Nations system, increase technical cooperation efforts, consider expanding the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to promote ageing issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

40. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing so as to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

41. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

42. *Requests* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to ensure that the situation of older women is mainstreamed and incorporated across their work and to support, in accordance with their respective mandates, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, including gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

43. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the World Health Organization, among others, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to include in reports to their respective governing bodies relevant information on efforts made by Member States and the international community on issues of relevance to older persons, including their social inclusion;

44. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as

national human rights institutions, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter and invited panellists, during the first six working sessions of the Working Group, and invites Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as appropriate;

45. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group, in particular by presenting measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, such as best practices, lessons learned and possible content for a multilateral legal instrument, as appropriate, in order to enable it to fulfil its existing mandate of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group, within existing resources, for the organization of its eighth working session, in 2017;

47. *Invites* the Independent Expert to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-second session under the agenda item entitled "Social development";

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/165

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/476, para. 27)[37]

71/165. Inclusive development for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/142 of 18 December 2014 and its previous relevant resolutions, including those on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, and stressing the need for their full application and implementation for persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[38] which it adopted on 13 December 2006 and which entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, recognizing that it is both a human rights and a development instrument, encouraging its ratification by Member States and its implementation by States parties, and taking note of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[39]

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities,[40] held on 23 September 2013 at the level of Heads of State and Government, with the overarching theme "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond", and reaffirming also the commitments contained therein,

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[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

[38] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[39] Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.

[40] Resolution 68/3.

Recalling all operational frameworks in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[41] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[42] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[43] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[44] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[45] the outcome document of the 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on HIV and AIDS, entitled "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030",[46] the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[47] the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, launched during the first World Humanitarian Summit, and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),[48] which contain references to the rights, participation, perspectives and well-being of persons with disabilities in development efforts,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[49] which is inclusive of persons with disabilities and in which Member States pledged to leave no one behind, and acknowledging that Member States, while implementing the 2030 Agenda, should, inter alia, respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind,

Welcoming also the follow-up and review of progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the inclusion of persons with disabilities as stakeholders in its work, as set out in resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013,

Welcoming further the panel discussion organized by the President of the General Assembly and held on 13 June 2016 to follow up on the status of and progress made towards the realization of the development goals for persons with disabilities in relation to the follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities and to the principles of the Convention,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 15 per cent of the world's population, or 1 billion people, of whom an estimated 80 per cent live in developing countries, and that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by poverty,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities, in particular women, children, youth, persons with albinism, indigenous peoples and older persons, continue to be subject to multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination, and noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability, in particular the rights of persons with disabilities, as an integral part of the development agenda, major challenges remain,

Concerned that women and girls with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable and marginalized in society, and recognizing the need for national development strategies and efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities and the realization of their human rights,

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[41] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[42] Resolution 65/1.

[43] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[44] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[45] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[46] Resolution 70/266, annex.

[47] Resolution 69/2.

[48] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[49] Resolution 70/1.

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are often disproportionately affected in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters and in their aftermath, and that they require specific protection and safety measures, and recognizing also the need to support further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development of such measures and decision-making processes relating thereto,

Recognizing also the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level, and in this sense stressing the duty of Member States to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on persons with disabilities and human rights and development,

Recognizing further that, while considerable progress has been made, the mainstreaming of disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, remains a global challenge, and recognizing that further efforts are needed to strengthen the normative and operational links to effectively integrate the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities in development policies and programmes,

Stressing its resolve to build inclusive societies and, in this regard, the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into all relevant strategies and programmes for sustainable development, and reaffirming the valued existing and potential contributions made by persons with disabilities to the overall well-being and diversity of their communities,

Recognizing the rights of persons with disabilities with respect to full and effective participation and inclusion in society, and therefore recognizing also that persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including national and international development programmes, with a view to ensuring that such policies and programmes are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities,

Underlining the need for urgent action by all stakeholders towards the adoption and implementation of more ambitious disability-inclusive national development strategies and actions, backed by increased international cooperation and support,

Stressing the need for capacity development efforts aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to ensure equal access to full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and without discrimination to persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, volunteering opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurial training in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence,

Recognizing the importance of guaranteeing accessibility, mobility and road safety for persons with disabilities in the context of cities and other human settlements,

Recognizing also the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace, and stressing that major international sporting events, such as the international Paralympic Games, should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship and tolerance, where persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organize, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, on an equal basis with others, and where the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned and fundamental ethical principles are upheld,

Concerned that the continuing lack of reliable statistics, data and information on the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to their exclusion in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving development planning and implementation that is inclusive of persons with disabilities, and in this regard recognizing the need to intensify efforts to strengthen data collection and capacity-building of Member States to support the development of evidence-based policies and programmes inclusive of persons with disabilities and ensure that no one is left behind,

Stressing the importance of collecting and analysing reliable data on persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics,[50] and their updates, encouraging ongoing efforts to improve data collection in order to disaggregate data with regard to persons with disabilities by gender and age, and underlining the need for internationally comparable data to assess progress on development policies that are inclusive of persons with disabilities,

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[50] Such as the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).

Concerned that the lack of high-quality data required to provide viable baselines and measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities poses a significant challenge to effectively monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for persons with disabilities, and in this regard welcoming the call for the disaggregation of data by disability in the 2030 Agenda, which recognizes the need to significantly increase the availability of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data to measure progress in the implementation of the Goals for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the realization of internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities and progress made in the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities[51] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have submitted information on progress made towards the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including on specific priorities for action, and data and analysis on persons with disabilities, and urges Member States and relevant United Nations entities to submit information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution and in his flagship report to be submitted to the General Assembly in 2018;[52]

3. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 26/20 of 27 June 2014,[53] in which the Council established the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, which included making concrete recommendations on how to better promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, how to promote development that is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities and how to promote their role as both agents for and beneficiaries of development, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur[54] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Welcomes* the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[49] and recognizes that their participation is integral to the full and inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have drafted strategies outlining their way forward in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development or are in the process of doing so, and encourages States, with the support of relevant stakeholders, to encourage the participation of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of these strategies and ensure that the strategies are inclusive of persons with disabilities and respect, protect and promote their rights, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[38]

6. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, regional integration organizations and financial institutions to make a concerted effort to include persons with disabilities and to integrate the principles of accessibility and inclusion into the monitoring and evaluation of the development goals;

7. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to design and implement policies and programmes to address fully the rights of women and girls with disabilities and to ensure that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be inclusive of and accessible to women and girls with disabilities;

8. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to foster cooperation and to further improve coordination among existing international processes and instruments in order to advance a disability-inclusive global agenda and to facilitate cross-learning and the sharing of information, practices, tools and resources that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

9. *Reaffirms* that social integration and economic policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health-care services, eliminate discrimination, increase the

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[51] A/71/214.

[52] Resolution 69/142, para. 21 (*b*).

[53] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[54] A/71/314.

participation and integration of social groups, particularly persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction, recognizes the need for their inclusion in and contribution to disaster preparedness, emergency response, recovery and the transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, and also recognizes the disproportionate impact of disasters on women and girls with disabilities;

11. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to strengthen coordination in the humanitarian, disaster and development spheres so as to strengthen resilience, better mitigate risks and support pathways towards recovery and development, including during humanitarian emergencies, for persons with disabilities;

12. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

13. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations and mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, and the regional commissions to make all efforts to engage with and ensure accessibility for the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities and, as appropriate, national human rights institutions, in development processes and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels;

14. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt a national disability strategy that can be operationalized, including through measurable and appropriate targets and indicators, and that assigns responsibility to and incorporates the views of a broad range of stakeholders, including persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

15. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to ensure that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion as well as urban planning and accessible community and housing development, take into account the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others;

16. *Encourages* Member States, international development institutions and other stakeholders, including those in the private sector, to promote accessibility, including through the application of universal design in all aspects of urban development, including the planning, design and construction of physical and virtual environments, public spaces, transportation and public services;

17. *Urges* Member States and regional and local governments to promote appropriate measures in cities and other human settlements that facilitate the access of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public in both rural and urban areas;

18. *Also urges* Member States, at the local, regional and national levels, to improve road safety for persons with disabilities and to integrate road safety into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design in cities and other human settlements;

19. *Stresses* the importance of enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities and of promoting sports for athletes with disabilities, without discrimination of any kind;

20. *Welcomes* the contributions made to the trust fund for the United Nations Partnership to Promote the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other stakeholders to support its objectives, including by providing voluntary contributions;

21. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building and for the collection and compilation of national data and statistics on persons with disabilities, in particular to developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing international guidelines on disability statistics, to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities;

22. *Encourages* the Statistical Commission, within existing resources, to update guidelines for the collection and analysis of data on persons with disabilities, taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and also encourages the United Nations system, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, within the scope of her mandate, to strengthen coherence and coordination across the United Nations system in order to promote the availability of internationally comparable data on the situation of persons with disabilities and to regularly include relevant data on disability or relevant qualitative facts, as appropriate, in relevant United Nations publications in the field of economic and social development;

23. *Encourages* Member States to take appropriate steps to expedite the mainstreaming of data on disability into official statistics;

24. *Takes note* of the multi-stakeholder panel discussion on the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda in the light of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, held on 5 February 2016, during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development, and recognizes the importance of undertaking similar initiatives in the future and the continued inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with all relevant United Nations entities, to submit information to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution and of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities,[40] and to make appropriate recommendations to further strengthen implementation.

RESOLUTION 71/166

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/476, para. 27)[55]

71/166. Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,[56] and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006, 63/154 of 18 December 2008, 65/183 of 21 December 2010, 68/132 of 18 December 2013 and 69/141 of 18 December 2014,

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[55] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen.

[56] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

Recalling also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[57] which includes Sustainable Development Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, with a specific target on ensuring that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy by 2030,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Reaffirming the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, whenever possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[58]

Deeply concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 758 million adults lack basic literacy skills, that, of the world's 650 million primary-school-age children, at least 250 million, many of whom are from disadvantaged backgrounds, are not acquiring basic skills in reading and mathematics, that an estimated 124 million children and adolescents worldwide remain out of school, especially in rural areas, and that these challenges are distributed in an uneven manner across countries and populations,

Recognizing that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education in order to enable millions of people to acquire literacy skills for decent work,

Recognizing also that literacy is a foundation for lifelong learning, a building block for achieving human rights and fundamental freedoms and a driver of sustainable development and that the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003–2012) had a catalytic effect as a global framework for sustained and focused efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments,

Recalling the International Conference on Girls' and Women's Literacy and Education: Foundations for Sustainable Development, held in Dhaka and co-hosted by the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in support of the Global Education First Initiative and on the occasion of International Literacy Day, on 8 September 2014, and taking note with appreciation of the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality and the eradication of poverty, as well as to development,

Recognizing the importance of continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as reflected in the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All, adopted on 28 April 2000 at the World Education Forum,[59] and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard recognizing also the important contribution of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

Concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

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[57] Resolution 70/1.

[58] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[59] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

Deeply concerned about the impact of disrupted educational services in humanitarian emergencies on efforts to promote literacy skills, especially for all children and young people,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas and education for democracy";[60]

2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the lead organization of the United Nations Literacy Decade, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting enjoyment of the right to education, including by making progress on the five strategic axes of action for the period following the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to scale up literacy programmes for children, youth and adults, with particular attention to those who are vulnerable or marginalized, to foster innovative delivery of literacy services, including through technology and a strengthened institutional network, to promote an intersectoral approach by linking literacy learning with multiple sectors to address diverse learning needs, such as through relevant and inclusive educational resources in different languages, to establish multi-stakeholder partnerships with the active participation of civil society and the private sector, to improve distance and digital learning resources and to develop a data-collection mechanism to assess levels of literacy;

4. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations, multilateral and bilateral donors, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector to sustain their collective efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments and to contribute to shaping the Global Alliance for Literacy within the framework of lifelong learning into an effective platform for synergistic action at the global, regional, national and community levels;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, and calls upon Member States and other stakeholders to consider implementing the recommendations contained therein;

6. *Calls upon* States, and invites other relevant stakeholders, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[57] including all literacy-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its coordinating and catalysing role through the implementation of the recommendations of the Global Alliance for Literacy and by continuing to provide support to Member States, in collaboration with partners, in enhancing capacities for policy formulation, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sharing information and knowledge on policies, programmes and progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal targets connected with literacy, especially target 4.6 on youth and adult literacy, and creating synergies of action between the Alliance and other initiatives, including its Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education and Global Network of Learning Cities;

8. *Encourages* efforts to provide quality education in safe learning environments for all, especially for boys, girls and youth, in humanitarian emergencies to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas".

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[60] A/71/177.

RESOLUTION 71/167

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/477, para. 34)[61]

71/167. Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and which requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to prosecute and punish the traffickers and to protect the victims of such trafficking and a criminal justice response proportionate to the serious nature of the offence,

Recalling all international conventions that deal specifically with and address issues relevant to the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[62] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[63] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[64] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[65] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[66] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[67] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[68] and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[69] as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and the Human Rights Council on the issue,

Recognizing the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and which provided, for the first time, an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, the protection of victims and the prosecution of the perpetrators,

Welcoming the outcome of the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 October 2016, at which the Conference decided to continue the process to establish a review mechanism for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

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[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[62] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[63] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[64] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[65] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[66] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[67] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[68] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[69] Ibid., vol. 96, No. 1342.

Reaffirming the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[70]

Reaffirming also the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons in order to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[71] recognizing its integrated and indivisible nature, and acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda, inter alia, addresses the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour; and the ending of abuse, exploitation, trafficking, all forms of violence against and torture of children,

Recognizing the importance of a revitalized global partnership to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the implementation of the goals and targets related to ending violence against women and girls and human trafficking, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of Alliance 8.7 and of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children,

Welcoming the adoption of the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, entitled the "New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants",[72] in which it recognized that refugees and migrants in large movements are at greater risk of being trafficked and of being subjected to forced labour,

Welcoming in particular the efforts of States, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children, including the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010,

Recognizing the urgency of combating trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour, including of women migrant workers, and in this regard taking note of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 11 June 2014, at its 103rd session, of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and of the Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203), of the International Labour Organization,

Welcoming, in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixtieth session,[73] the commitment of Governments to ensure that the rights and specific needs of women and girls affected and displaced by trafficking in persons are addressed in national and international plans, strategies and responses,

Noting with appreciation the steps taken, including by the human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on violence against women, its causes and consequences, on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and other relevant special procedures mandate holders of the Council involved in human trafficking issues and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and by United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as by civil society, to address the crime of trafficking in persons, and encouraging them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

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[70] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[71] Resolution 70/1.

[72] Resolution 71/1.

[73] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 7* (E/2016/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Noting the renewal by the Human Rights Council, at its twenty-sixth session, of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[74] and the fact that part of her task is to integrate a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout the work of her mandate, inter alia, through the identification of gender- and age-specific vulnerabilities in relation to the issue of trafficking in persons,

Acknowledging the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[75] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Bearing in mind the obligations of States to exercise due diligence to prevent trafficking in persons, to investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to protect and empower victims, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Seriously concerned that an increasing number of women and girls are being trafficked, including to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and recognizing that trafficking in persons disproportionately affects women and girls and that men and boys are also victims of trafficking, including for sexual exploitation,

Recognizing that certain efforts against trafficking in persons lack the gender and age sensitivity needed to effectively differentiate between and respond to the risks faced by women and girls, who are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, forced marriage, forced labour, services and other forms of exploitation, thus highlighting the need to incorporate a gender- and age-sensitive approach into all anti-trafficking efforts,

Recognizing also the need to address the impact of globalization on the particular problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls,

Recognizing further that pervasive gender inequality, poverty, unemployment, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination and marginalization and persistent demand for trafficked women and girls are among the underlying causes that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking,

Recognizing the need to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand, which fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking,

Recognizing also the heightened vulnerability to trafficking of women and girls in humanitarian crisis situations, including in conflict and post-conflict environments, natural disasters and other emergency environments, as well as the devastating consequences for women and girls in such circumstances, and noting in this regard the Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change resulting from the Nansen Initiative, while recognizing that not all States are participating in them,

Recognizing further the need to reinforce efforts regarding the provision of relevant documents, such as birth registration documents, in order to lower the risk of being trafficked and to help to identify victims of trafficking in persons,

Recognizing that, despite the progress made, challenges to preventing and combating trafficking in women and girls and to protecting and assisting the victims of human trafficking remain and that further efforts should be made to adopt and implement adequate legislation and other measures and to continue improving the collection of reliable data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors and of statistics that would allow proper analysis of the nature, extent and risk factors of trafficking in women and girls,

Recognizing also that further work is required both to better understand the link between migration and trafficking in persons and to develop more effective responses to eliminate the risk of trafficking in the migration process in order to, inter alia, further efforts to protect women migrant workers from violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

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[74] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A, resolution 26/8.

[75] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Concerned about the use of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of recruiting for the exploitation of the prostitution of others, including for exploiting women and children and for child pornography, including sexual abuse material, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, as well as for forced marriage and forced labour, while acknowledging the role that information and communications technologies play in reducing the risk of sexual abuse and exploitation, including by empowering women and children to report such abuses,

Concerned also about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in persons, especially women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international standards,

Noting with concern that women and girls are also vulnerable to the risk of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, and in this regard taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/1 of 27 May 2016, entitled "Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal", adopted by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session,[76]

Recognizing that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, culture and religion, as well as their origin, and that those forms of discrimination themselves may fuel trafficking in persons,

Noting with concern that some of the demand fostering sexual exploitation, exploitative labour and the illegal removal of organs is met by trafficking in persons, and recognizing that human trafficking is fuelled by high profits for traffickers and demand that fosters all forms of exploitation,

Acknowledging that women and girl victims of trafficking, owing to pervasive and persistent gender inequality, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information on or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with trafficking, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to accurate information and recourse mechanisms in cases of the violation of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

Taking note of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted in April 2015,[77] which expresses the importance of implementing a victim-oriented approach to prevent and counter all forms of trafficking in persons for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, where appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

Reaffirming the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments, intergovernmental and civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Reaffirming also that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, especially women and children, demand the strong political commitment, coordinated and coherent efforts and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing that policies and programmes for prevention, protection, rehabilitation, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, with concern for the security and privacy of the victims and respect for the full enjoyment of their human rights and with the involvement of all actors in countries of origin, transit and destination,

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[76] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[77] Resolution 70/174, annex.

Convinced of the need to protect and assist all victims of trafficking, with full respect for the human rights and dignity of the victims,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[78] which provides information on measures by States and activities within the United Nations system to tackle trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the information submitted by Member States and United Nations entities on measures and activities taken to combat trafficking in women and girls, and urges Member States and United Nations entities that have not done so to submit the requested information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;[79]

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[62] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[63] taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

5. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying, and States parties to implement, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[65] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[66] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[67] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[80] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[81] as well as the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)[82] and the Protocol thereto, the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81),[83] the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97),[84] the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),[85] the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[86] the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143),[87] the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181),[88] the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[89] and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189), of the International Labour Organization;

6. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[90] and the activities outlined therein;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prevent and address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to further enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical expertise and best practices as widely as possible;

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[78] A/71/223.

[79] A/71/303 and A/HRC/32/41 and Corr.1.

[80] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[82] Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.

[83] Ibid., vol. 54, No. 792.

[84] Ibid., vol. 120, No. 1616.

[85] Ibid., vol. 362, No. 5181.

[86] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

[87] Ibid., vol. 1120, No. 17426.

[88] Ibid., vol. 2115, No. 36794.

[89] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

[90] Resolution 64/293.

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome document of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa, known as the Khartoum Declaration, and calls for its effective implementation, including through technical cooperation and capacity-building, by the United Nations and the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider the issue of trafficking in women and girls at its sixty-first session, within the framework of the priority theme for 2017, "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work";

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to observe the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in the context of the need to raise awareness of the situation of victims of trafficking in persons and for the promotion and protection of their rights;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to mainstream, as appropriate, the issue of trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education, health and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

12. *Welcomes* the continued focus given by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ending violence against women and to increasing women's access to economic opportunities, as well as its work on building effective partnerships for the empowerment of women, which will contribute to the efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify their efforts to prevent and address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation and in this regard to put in place or to enhance preventive measures, including legislative and punitive measures to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

14. *Acknowledges* the drafting of the basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for victims of trafficking in persons;[91]

15. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen measures aimed at advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls by, inter alia, enhancing their participation and leadership in society, including through education, economic empowerment and promoting an increase in the number of women assuming decision-making roles in both the public and private sectors, and to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to being trafficked;

16. *Also calls upon* Governments to take appropriate preventive measures to address the underlying causes as well as risk factors that increase vulnerability to human trafficking, including poverty and gender inequality, particularly gender-based discrimination and violence, and the persistent demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for exploitation, including in prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage, forced labour and organ removal, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation, with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, including public officials engaging in or facilitating human trafficking, through, as appropriate, criminal and civil measures;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict, post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened vulnerability of women and girls to trafficking and exploitation and associated gender-based violence and to include the prevention of the trafficking of affected women and girls in all such national, regional and international initiatives;

18. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender- and age-sensitive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

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[91] A/69/269, annex.

19. *Also urges* Governments to ensure that the prevention of and responses to trafficking in persons continue to take into account the specific needs of women and girls and their participation in and contribution to all phases of preventing and responding to trafficking, especially in addressing specific forms of exploitation, such as sexual exploitation;

20. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular education for women and men, as well as for girls and boys, on gender equality, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns, carried out in collaboration with civil society, to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels, including awareness-raising campaigns against trafficking and modern slavery targeted at groups that are at increased risk of becoming victims of trafficking, as well as at those who may fuel the demand for the exploitation of trafficked persons and/or their labour;

21. *Reiterates* the importance of continued coordination among, inter alia, the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication in their activities in fulfilment of their mandates;

22. *Urges* Governments to strengthen measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially for children, through all possible preventive actions, including legislative measures and other relevant policies and programmes;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Tourism Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to promote their global campaign urging travellers to support the fight against trafficking in persons, especially women and girls;

24. *Urges* Governments to develop age-appropriate educational and training programmes and policies aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

25. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,[92] to address the problem of trafficking in persons through, inter alia, the enhancement of information-sharing, data disaggregated by sex and age, specific data collection and other technical capacities and mutual legal assistance, as well as the combating of corruption and laundering of proceeds derived from trafficking, including for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, and to ensure, as appropriate, that such agreements and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of trafficking as it affects women and girls;

26. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize all forms of trafficking in persons, recognizing its increasing occurrence for purposes of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, sex tourism and forced labour, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, including public officials involved with trafficking in persons, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with the due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

27. *Urges* Governments, in accordance with their respective legal systems, to take all appropriate measures, including through policies and legislation, to ensure that victims of trafficking are protected from prosecution or punishment for acts those victims have been compelled to commit as a direct consequence of having been subjected

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[92] Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see A/C.3/55/3, annex), the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed most recently in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, the Agreement on the Cooperation of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues, the Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

to trafficking and that the victims do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking in persons from being prosecuted or punished as a direct consequence of their illegal entry or residence;

28. *Invites* Governments to consider establishing or strengthening a national mechanism, with the participation of civil society, as appropriate, including non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, to ensure a holistic and coordinated approach to anti-trafficking policies and measures, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, underlying causes, factors and trends in trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, and to include data on victims of trafficking disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors;

29. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to continue to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms to combat trafficking in persons, in consultation with Governments, relevant treaty bodies, special procedures, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other sources, including victims of trafficking or their representatives, as appropriate;

30. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, from within existing resources, to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, including the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking, to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labour, to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that trafficking is a serious crime;

31. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide access to appropriate programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, including sexual and reproductive health-care services that include affordable treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, free of stigma and discrimination, as well as comprehensive information and voluntary counselling, and to take measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

32. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and civil society organizations, to undertake or strengthen campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations, rights and responsibilities with respect to migration, as well as information on the risks of irregular migration and the ways and means used by traffickers, to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

33. *Strongly urges* Governments to ensure coherence between the laws on and measures responding to migration, labour and trafficking to protect the human rights of migrant women and girls throughout the migration and employment process as well as the repatriation process, when applicable, and to provide effective protection against trafficking;

34. *Invites* States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to undertake further research into the links between migration and trafficking to guide the development of age- and gender-sensitive policies and programmes that address the vulnerability of women and girl migrants;

35. *Encourages* Governments to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories or jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat human trafficking in supply chains, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

36. *Invites* the business sector to consider the adoption of ethical codes of conduct to ensure decent work and to prevent any form of exploitative practices that foster trafficking;

37. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement gender- and age-sensitive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

38. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of trafficking in

persons, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and in this regard calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking, especially by law enforcement officials, immigration officers, consular officials, social workers, health service providers and other first response officials, is conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims and with gender and age sensitivity and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination;

39. *Invites* Member States to provide training for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as medical personnel, in identifying potential cases of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

40. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are sensitive to the particular situation of trafficked women and girls, and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities, without fear and with due regard for the protection of their privacy and their identity, and are available, when required, to the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered;

41. *Also invites* Governments to intensify efforts aimed at the speedy disposition of cases of trafficking in persons and, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to devise, enforce and strengthen systems and mechanisms for combating trafficking in persons;

42. *Further invites* Governments to encourage media providers, including Internet service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster trafficking;

43. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism, travel and telecommunications industries, relevant recruitment agencies and mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of trafficking, the means used by traffickers, the rights of trafficked persons and the services available to victims of trafficking;

44. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant factors and comprehensive studies at both the national and the international levels, and in this regard takes note of the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat the trafficking problem;

45. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

46. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and to provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officials and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims;

47. *Calls upon* Governments, and encourages relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations, to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided with training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel about the potential risks to victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, of being trafficked;

48. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenants on Human Rights[93] to include information and disaggregated statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees and to work towards developing a common methodology and statistics to obtain comparable data;

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[93] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

49. *Invites* States to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report that compiles information on successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender dimensions of the problem of trafficking in persons and provides recommendations on the strengthening of human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approaches within comprehensive and balanced efforts to address trafficking in persons.

RESOLUTION 71/168

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/477, para. 34)[94]

71/168. Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/117 of 9 December 1998, 56/128 of 19 December 2001, 67/146 of 20 December 2012, 68/146 of 18 December 2013 and 69/150 of 18 December 2014, Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 51/2 of 9 March 2007,[95] 52/2 of 7 March 2008[96] and 54/7 of 12 March 2010[97] and Human Rights Council resolutions 27/22 of 26 September 2014[98] and 32/21 of 1 July 2016,[99] and all relevant agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[100]

Reaffirming also that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[101] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[102] and all the relevant conventions, together with the optional protocols thereto, as appropriate, constitute an important contribution to the legal framework for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women and girls,

Reaffirming further the Beijing Declaration[103] and Platform for Action,[104] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[105] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and

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[94] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[95] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[96] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 7* (E/2008/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[97] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[98] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[99] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[100] Resolution 217 A (III).

[101] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[102] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[103] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[104] Ibid., annex II.

[105] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

Development[106] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[107] and their 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-year reviews, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[108] and the commitments relevant to women and girls made at the 2005 World Summit[109] and reiterated in Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", and those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[110]

Recognizing the role of regional and subregional instruments and mechanisms in the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation, where they exist,

Recalling the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted in Maputo on 11 July 2003, which contains, inter alia, undertakings and commitments on ending female genital mutilation and marks a significant milestone towards the elimination and ending of female genital mutilation,

Recalling also the decision of the African Union, adopted in Malabo on 1 July 2011, to support the adoption by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session of a resolution banning female genital mutilation,

Recalling further the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-sixth session that the Economic and Social Council recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a decision to consider the issue of ending female genital mutilation at its sixty-seventh session under the item entitled "Advancement of women",[111]

Recognizing that female genital mutilation constitutes irreparable, irreversible harm and an act of violence against women and girls that impairs their human rights, and recognizing also that it affects about 200 million women and girls worldwide and that each year an estimated further 4 million girls are at risk of being subjected to the practice throughout the world, which can be an impediment to the full achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Reaffirming that female genital mutilation is a harmful practice, constituting a serious threat to the health of women and girls, including their physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health, increasing their vulnerability to HIV, as well as hepatitis A and B, and possibly having adverse obstetric and prenatal outcomes, as well as fatal consequences for the mother and the newborn, and that the elimination of this harmful practice can be achieved as a result of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society, including girls and boys, women and men,

Recognizing that female genital mutilation is inherently linked to deep-rooted, negative norms, stereotypes, perceptions and customs that are obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights,

Concerned about evidence of an increase in the incidence of female genital mutilation being carried out by medical personnel in all regions in which it is practised,

Recognizing that negative discriminatory and stereotypical attitudes and behaviours have direct implications for the status and treatment of women and girls and that such negative stereotypes impede the implementation of legislative and normative frameworks that guarantee gender equality and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex,

Stressing that men and boys play an important role in the acceleration of progress in preventing and eliminating harmful practices such as female genital mutilation by being agents of change,

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[106] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[107] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[108] Resolution 55/2.

[109] See resolution 60/1.

[110] Resolution 70/1.

[111] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2012, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing that the campaign of the Secretary-General entitled "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the Global Database on Violence against Women have contributed to addressing the elimination of female genital mutilation,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations system to end female genital mutilation, in particular the commitment of 10 United Nations entities,[112] announced in their joint inter-agency statement of 27 February 2008 on eliminating female genital mutilation, as well as the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, to accelerate the elimination of the practice,

Commending the continued efforts and actions undertaken by States, individually and collectively, regional organizations and United Nations agencies for the elimination of female genital mutilation as well as the implementation of its resolution 69/150,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and underscoring the importance of its implementation with a view to eliminating female genital mutilation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[113]

Deeply concerned that, despite the increase in national, regional and international efforts and the focus on the elimination of female genital mutilation, the practice continues to persist in all regions of the world and is often on the rise for migrant and refugee women and girls,

Deeply concerned also that a tremendous gap in resources continues to exist and that the shortfall in funding has severely limited the scope and pace of programmes and activities for the elimination of female genital mutilation,

1. *Stresses* that the empowerment of women and girls is key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, and calls upon States parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[101] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[102] as well as their commitments to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[114] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[106] the Beijing Platform for Action[104] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[105] and of the special session of the General Assembly on children;[115]

2. *Calls upon* States to place a stronger focus on the development and implementation of comprehensive prevention strategies, including the enhancement of educational campaigns, awareness-raising and formal, non-formal and informal education and training in order to promote the direct engagement of girls and boys, women and men and to ensure that all key actors, government officials, including law enforcement and judicial personnel, immigration officials and parliamentarians, health-care providers, civil society, the private sector, community and religious leaders, teachers, employers, media professionals and those directly working with girls, as well as parents, families and communities, work to eliminate attitudes and harmful practices, in particular all forms of female genital mutilation, that negatively affect women and girls;

3. *Also calls upon* States to strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising programmes, to mobilize girls and boys to take an active part in developing preventive and elimination programmes to address harmful practices, especially female genital mutilation, and to engage families, local community and religious leaders, educational institutions, the media and civil society and provide increased financial support to efforts at all levels to end discriminatory social norms and practices;

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[112] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Development Programme, Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women and World Health Organization.

[113] A/71/209.

[114] Resolution 48/104.

[115] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

4. *Urges* States to condemn all harmful practices that affect women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, whether committed within or outside a medical institution, and to take all necessary measures, especially through educational campaigns, including enacting and enforcing legislation, to prohibit female genital mutilation and to protect women and girls from this form of violence, and to hold perpetrators to account;

5. *Also urges* States to complement punitive measures with awareness-raising and educational activities designed to promote a process of consensus towards the elimination of female genital mutilation, and further urges States to protect and support women and girls who have been subjected to female genital mutilation and those at risk, including by developing social and psychological support services and care and appropriate remedies, and to take measures to improve their health, including sexual and reproductive health, in order to assist women and girls who are subjected to the practice;

6. *Further urges* States to promote gender-sensitive, empowering educational processes by reviewing and revising, as appropriate, school curricula, educational materials and teacher-training programmes and elaborating policies and programmes of zero tolerance for violence against girls, including female genital mutilation, placing special emphasis on education about the harmful effects of female genital mutilation, and to further integrate a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls into education and training curricula at all levels;

7. *Urges* States to ensure that the protection and provision of support to women and girls subject to, or at risk of, female genital mutilation are an integral part of policies and programmes that address the practice, and to provide women and girls with coordinated, specialized, accessible and quality multisectoral prevention and response, including education, as well as legal, psychological, health-care and social services, provided by qualified personnel, consistent with the guidelines of medical ethics;

8. *Calls upon* States to ensure that national action plans and strategies on the elimination of female genital mutilation are comprehensive and multidisciplinary in scope and that they include projected timelines for goals and incorporate clear targets and indicators for the effective monitoring, impact assessment and coordination of programmes among all relevant stakeholders and promote their participation, including the participation of affected groups, practising communities and non-governmental organizations, in the development, implementation and evaluation of such plans and strategies;

9. *Urges* States to take, within the general framework of integration policies and in consultation with affected communities, effective and specific targeted measures for refugee women and women migrants and their communities in order to protect girls from female genital mutilation, including when the practice occurs outside the country of residence;

10. *Calls upon* States to develop information and awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to systematically reach the general public, relevant professionals, families and communities, including through the media, featuring television and radio discussions about the harmful effect of female genital mutilation and the fact that this practice still exists, as well as about national and international levels of support for the elimination of female genital mutilation;

11. *Urges* States to pursue a comprehensive, culturally sensitive, systematic approach that incorporates a social perspective and is based on human rights and gender-equality principles in providing education and training to families, local community leaders and members of all professions relevant to the protection and empowerment of women and girls in order to increase awareness of and commitment to the elimination of female genital mutilation;

12. *Also urges* States to ensure the national implementation of international and regional commitments and obligations undertaken as States parties to various international instruments protecting the full enjoyment of all human rights and the fundamental freedoms of women and girls;

13. *Calls upon* States to develop policies and regulations to ensure the effective implementation of national legislative frameworks on eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, and to put in place adequate accountability mechanisms at the national and local levels to monitor adherence to and implementation of those legislative frameworks;

14. *Also calls upon* States to develop unified methods and standards for the collection of data on all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, especially forms that are underdocumented, harmful practices such as female genital mutilation, to develop additional indicators to effectively measure progress in

eliminating the practice and to reinforce the sharing of good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of the practice at the subregional, regional and global levels;

15. *Urges* States to allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of policies and programmes and legislative frameworks aimed at eliminating female genital mutilation;

16. *Calls upon* States to develop, support and implement comprehensive and integrated strategies for the prevention of female genital mutilation, including the training of social workers, medical personnel, community and religious leaders and relevant professionals, and to ensure that they provide competent, supportive services and care to women and girls who are at risk of or who have undergone female genital mutilation and encourage them to report to the appropriate authorities cases in which they believe women or girls are at risk;

17. *Also calls upon* States to support, as part of a comprehensive approach to eliminate female genital mutilation, programmes that engage local community practitioners of female genital mutilation in community-based initiatives for the elimination of the practice, including, where relevant, the identification by communities of alternative livelihoods for them;

18. *Calls upon* the international community, the relevant United Nations entities and civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources and technical assistance, targeted comprehensive programmes that address the needs and priorities of women and girls at risk of or subjected to female genital mutilation;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to strongly support, including through increased financial support, a third phase of the Joint Programme on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Accelerating Change of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, which will run until 2020, as well as national programmes focused on the elimination of female genital mutilation;

20. *Stresses* that some progress has been made in combating female genital mutilation in a number of countries using a common coordinated approach that promotes positive social change at the community, national, regional and international levels, and recalls the goal set out in the United Nations inter-agency statement that female genital mutilation is to be eliminated within a generation, with some of the main achievements being obtained by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

21. *Encourages* men and boys to take positive initiatives and to work in partnership with women and girls to combat violence and discriminatory practices against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, through networks, peer programmes, information campaigns and training programmes;

22. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system, civil society and all stakeholders to continue to observe 6 February as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and to use the day to enhance awareness-raising campaigns and to take concrete actions against female genital mutilation;

23. *Calls upon* States to improve the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative data and, where appropriate, to collaborate with existing data collection systems, which are crucial for evidence-based legal and policy development, programme design and implementation and the monitoring of the elimination of female genital mutilation;

24. *Acknowledges* that intensifying efforts is urgently needed for the elimination of female genital mutilation, and in this regard also acknowledges the importance of giving the issue due consideration in the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, individually and collectively, take into account the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls against female genital mutilation in their country programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with national priorities, in order to further strengthen their efforts in this regard;

26. *Renews its request* to the Secretary-General that he submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-third session, an in-depth multidisciplinary report on the root causes of and factors contributing to the practice of female genital mutilation, its prevalence worldwide and its impact on women and girls, including evidence and data,

analysis of progress made to date and action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice, on the basis of information provided by Member States, relevant actors of the United Nations system working on the issue and other relevant stakeholders.

RESOLUTION 71/169

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/477, para. 34)[116]

71/169. Intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/138 of 18 December 2007, 63/158 of 18 December 2008, 65/188 of 21 December 2010 and 67/147 of 20 December 2012 on supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula and its resolution 69/148 of 18 December 2014 on the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[117] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[118] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[119] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[120] and their reviews, and the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance[121] and the 2005 World Summit,[122] as well as those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[123]

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[124] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[125] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[126] recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[127] and urging States that have not done so to consider, as a matter of priority, signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions and the optional protocols thereto,[128]

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[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

[117] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[118] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[119] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[120] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[121] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[122] Resolution 60/1.

[123] Resolution 70/1.

[124] Resolution 217 A (III).

[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[126] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[127] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[128] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378; ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; resolution 66/138, annex, and resolution 63/117, annex.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[129] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Stressing the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health-care services, early childbearing, child, early and forced marriage, violence against young women and girls and gender inequality as root causes of obstetric fistula, and that poverty remains the main social risk factor,

Recognizing that the difficult socioeconomic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

Recognizing also that early childbearing increases the risk of complications during pregnancy and delivery and entails a much higher risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, and deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, specifically timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and other maternal morbidities, as well as maternal mortality,

Recognizing further that adolescent girls are at particular risk of maternal death and morbidity, including obstetric fistula, and concerned that the leading cause of death among girls aged 15 to 19 in many low- and middle-income countries is complications from pregnancy and childbirth and that women aged 30 and older are at increased risk of developing complications and of dying during childbirth,

Recognizing that lack of access to sexual and reproductive health, especially emergency obstetric services, remains among the leading causes of obstetric fistula, leading to ill health and death for women and girls of childbearing age in many regions of the world, and that a dramatic and sustainable scaling-up of quality treatment and health-care services, including high quality emergency obstetric services, and of the number of trained, competent fistula surgeons and midwives, is needed to significantly reduce maternal and newborn mortality and to eradicate obstetric fistula,

Noting that a human rights-based approach to eliminating obstetric fistula and efforts to eliminate obstetric fistula should be underpinned by the principles of, inter alia, accountability, participation, transparency, empowerment, sustainability, non-discrimination and international cooperation,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against women and girls and the violation and abuse of their human rights, which often result in reduced access to education and nutrition, compromising their physical and mental health and well-being and their enjoyment of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence compared with boys, and often in their being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, which can increase the risk of obstetric fistula,

Deeply concerned also about the situation of women living with or recovering from obstetric fistula, who are often neglected and stigmatized, which may lead to negative effects on their mental health, resulting in depression and suicide, and are driven deeper into poverty and marginalization,

Recognizing the need to raise awareness among men and adolescent boys and, in this context, to fully engage men and community leaders as strategic partners and allies in the efforts to address and eliminate obstetric fistula,

Welcoming the contribution by Member States, the international community and civil society to the global Campaign to End Fistula led by the United Nations Population Fund, bearing in mind that a people-centred approach to social and economic development is fundamental for protecting and empowering individuals and communities,

Deeply concerned that, as the global Campaign to End Fistula completes its twelfth anniversary, while some progress has been made, significant challenges remain that require the intensification of efforts at all levels to end obstetric fistula,

Recognizing, with interest, the Secretary-General's revised Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030), undertaken by a broad coalition of partners, in support of national plans and strategies that aim for the highest attainable standards of health and well-being, physical, mental and social, at every age, ending maternal and newborn mortality, which is preventable, and noting that this can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

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[129] A/71/306.

Welcoming the various national, regional and international initiatives on all the Sustainable Development Goals, including those undertaken bilaterally and through South-South cooperation, in support of national plans and strategies in sectors such as health, education, finance, gender equality, energy, water and sanitation, poverty eradication and nutrition as a way to reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under-five child deaths,

Welcoming also ongoing partnerships between stakeholders at all levels to address the multifaceted determinants of maternal, newborn and child health, in close coordination with Member States, based on their needs and priorities, and in this regard welcoming further the commitments to accelerate progress on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, and recognizes that the efforts to end obstetric fistula within a generation will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, including Goals 3 and 5;

2. *Recognizes* the interlinkages between poverty, lack of or inadequate access to health-care services, early childbearing and child, early and forced marriage as root causes of obstetric fistula, that poverty and inequality, including gender inequality, remain the main social risk factors and that the eradication of poverty is critical to meeting the needs and rights of women and girls, and calls upon States, in collaboration with the international community, to take accelerated action to address the situation;

3. *Stresses* the need to address the social issues that contribute to the problem of obstetric fistula, such as poverty, lack of or inadequate education for women and girls, lack of access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, early childbearing, child, early and forced marriage and the low status of women and girls;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the right of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[119] the Beijing Platform for Action[130] and the outcome documents of their review conferences, and to develop sustainable health systems and social services with a view to ensuring universal access to such systems and services without discrimination, while paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition, water and sanitation, family planning information, increasing women's empowerment, knowledge and awareness and ensuring equitable access to high-quality appropriate prenatal and delivery care for the prevention of obstetric fistula and the reduction of health inequities, as well as postnatal care for the detection and early management of fistula cases;

5. *Also calls upon* States to ensure equitable coverage and timely access, by means of national plans, policies and programmes, to health-care services, in particular emergency obstetric and newborn care, skilled birth attendance, obstetric fistula treatment and family planning, that is financially and culturally accessible, including in rural and most remote areas;

6. *Further calls upon* States to ensure the right to education of good quality for women and girls, on an equal basis with men and boys, and to ensure that they complete a full course of primary education, and to renew their efforts to improve and expand girls' and women's education at all levels, including at the secondary and higher levels, including age-appropriate sex education, as well as vocational education and technical training, in order to, inter alia, achieve gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and poverty eradication;

7. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage, including in rural and remote areas, is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

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[130] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

8. *Calls upon* the international community to provide intensified technical and financial support, in particular to high-burden countries, to accelerate progress towards the elimination of obstetric fistula within a generation, which can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and leave no one behind;

9. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks in the public and private sectors, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies to support national efforts and institutional capacity-building to end obstetric fistula and to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach young women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas and the poorest urban areas, as well as to ensure that needed funding is increased, predictable and sustained;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to support the activities of the United Nations Population Fund and other partners, including the World Health Organization, in the global Campaign to End Fistula in establishing and financing regional fistula treatment and training centres and, where necessary, national centres, by identifying and supporting health facilities that have the potential to serve as centres for treatment, training and convalescent care;

11. *Calls upon* States to accelerate progress to improve maternal health by addressing sexual and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendance at birth, including midwives, emergency obstetric and newborn care, postnatal care and methods of prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and infections, such as HIV, within strengthened health-care systems that provide universal access to affordable, equitable and high-quality integrated health-care services and include community-based preventive and clinical care, as reflected in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development";[123]

12. *Urges* the international community to address the shortage and inequitable distribution of doctors, surgeons, midwives, nurses and other health-care workers trained in lifesaving obstetric care, and of space and supplies, which limit the capacity of most fistula centres;

13. *Commends* the commemoration by the international community of 23 May as the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula and the decision to continue to use the International Day each year to significantly raise awareness, intensify actions and mobilize support towards ending obstetric fistula;

14. *Calls upon* States and/or the relevant funds and programmes, organs and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, to end obstetric fistula within a generation by:

(*a*) Redoubling their efforts to meet the internationally agreed goal of improving maternal health by making maternal health-care services and obstetric fistula treatment geographically and financially accessible, including by ensuring universal access to skilled attendance at birth and timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care and family planning, as well as appropriate prenatal and postnatal care;

(*b*) Making greater investments in strengthening health systems, ensuring adequately trained and skilled human resources, especially midwives, obstetricians, gynaecologists and doctors, and providing support for the development and maintenance of infrastructure, as well as investments in referral mechanisms, equipment and supply chains, to improve maternal and newborn health-care services and ensure that women and girls have access to the full continuum of care, with functional quality control and monitoring mechanisms in place for all areas of service delivery;

(*c*) Supporting the training of doctors and surgeons, nurses and other health-care workers in lifesaving obstetric care, especially midwives, who are the front-line workers in the fight to prevent obstetric fistula and maternal and newborn mortality, including training on fistula prevention, treatment and care as a standard element of the training curricula of health professionals;

(*d*) Ensuring universal access through national policies, plans and programmes that make maternal and newborn health-care services, particularly family planning, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care and obstetric fistula treatment, financially accessible, including in rural and remote areas and among the poorest women and girls, through, where appropriate, the establishment and distribution of health-care facilities and trained medical personnel, collaboration with the transport sector for affordable transport options, the promotion of and support for community-based solutions and the provision of incentives and other means to secure the presence in rural and remote areas of qualified health-care professionals who are able to perform interventions to prevent obstetric fistula;

(*e*) Developing, implementing and supporting national and international prevention, care and treatment and socioeconomic reintegration and support strategies, policies and plans to eliminate obstetric fistula within a generation, developing further multisectoral, multidisciplinary, comprehensive and integrated action plans in order to bring about lasting solutions and put an end to maternal mortality and morbidity and obstetric fistula, which is preventable, including by ensuring access to affordable, accessible, comprehensive, high-quality maternal health-care services, and, within countries, incorporating into all sectors of national budgets policy and programmatic approaches to address inequities and reach poor, vulnerable women and girls;

(*f*) Establishing or strengthening, as appropriate, a national task force for obstetric fistula, led by the Ministry of Health, to enhance national coordination and improve partner collaboration to end obstetric fistula;

(*g*) Strengthening the capacity of health-care systems, in particular public health systems, to provide the essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases by increasing national budgets for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to reproductive health, including for obstetric fistula, ensuring access to fistula treatment through increased availability of trained, expert fistula surgeons and permanent, holistic fistula services integrated into strategically selected hospitals, thereby addressing the significant backlog of women and girls awaiting surgical repair of fistula, and encouraging communication among fistula centres to facilitate training, research, advocacy and fundraising and the application of relevant medical standards, including consideration of the use of the World Health Organization manual entitled "Obstetric Fistula: Guiding Principles for Clinical Management and Programme Development", which provides background information and principles for developing fistula prevention and treatment programmes, as appropriate;

(*h*) Mobilizing funding to provide free or adequately subsidized maternal health-care and obstetric fistula repair and treatment services, including by encouraging networking among providers and the sharing of new treatment techniques and protocols to protect women's and children's well-being and survival and to prevent the recurrence of subsequent fistulas by making post-surgery follow-up and the tracking of fistula patients a routine and key component of all fistula programmes, and also to ensure access to elective caesarean sections for fistula survivors who become pregnant again in order to prevent fistula recurrence and to increase the chances of survival of mother and baby in all subsequent pregnancies;

(*i*) Ensuring that all women and girls who have undergone fistula treatment, including the forgotten women and girls whose conditions are deemed incurable or inoperable, are provided with and have access to comprehensive health-care services, holistic social integration services and careful follow-up, including counselling, education, family planning and socioeconomic empowerment, for as long as needed, through, inter alia, skills development and income-generating activities, so that they can overcome abandonment and social exclusion, and developing linkages with civil society organizations and women's and girls' empowerment programmes so as to help to achieve this goal;

(*j*) Empowering fistula survivors to contribute to community sensitization and mobilization as advocates for fistula elimination, safe motherhood and newborn survival;

(*k*) Educating individual women and men, girls and boys, communities, policymakers and health professionals about how obstetric fistula can be prevented and treated, and increasing awareness of the needs of pregnant women and girls, as well as of those who have undergone surgical fistula repair, including their right to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, by working with community and religious leaders, traditional birth attendants and midwives, women and girls who have suffered from fistula, the media, social workers, civil society, women's organizations, influential public figures and policymakers;

(*l*) Enhancing the participation of men and adolescent boys in the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula and further strengthening their involvement as partners, including in the global Campaign to End Fistula;

(*m*) Strengthening awareness-raising and advocacy, including through the media, to effectively reach families and communities with key messages on fistula prevention and treatment and social reintegration;

(*n*) Strengthening research, monitoring and evaluation systems, including by developing a community- and facility-based mechanism for the systematic notification of obstetric fistula cases and maternal and newborn deaths to ministries of health, and their recording in a national register, and by acknowledging obstetric fistula as a nationally notifiable condition, triggering immediate reporting, tracking and follow-up for the purpose of guiding the development and implementation of maternal health programmes and ending fistula within a generation;

(*o*) Strengthening research, data collection, monitoring and evaluation to guide the planning and implementation of maternal health programmes, including for obstetric fistula, by conducting up-to-date needs assessments on emergency obstetric and newborn care and for fistula and routine reviews of maternal deaths and near-miss cases as part of a national maternal death surveillance and response system, integrated within national health information systems;

(*p*) Improving data collection, pre- and post-surgery, to measure progress in addressing needs for surgical treatment and the quality of surgery, rehabilitation and socioeconomic reintegration services, including post-surgery prospects for successful subsequent pregnancies, live births and severe health-related complications, so as to address the challenges of improving maternal health;

(*q*) Providing essential health-care services, equipment and supplies, education, skills training and income-generating projects and support to women and girls so that they can break out of the cycle of poverty;

15. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to efforts to end obstetric fistula, including, in particular, through the global Campaign to End Fistula, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and to commit themselves to continued efforts to improve maternal health with the aim of eliminating obstetric fistula globally within a generation;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

RESOLUTION 71/170

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/477, para. 34)[131]

71/170. Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009, 65/187 of 21 December 2010, 67/144 of 20 December 2012 and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women, as well as its resolution 69/147 of 18 December 2014 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

Recalling also its resolution 58/147 of 22 December 2003 and Human Rights Council resolution 29/14 of 2 July 2015, entitled "Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: eliminating domestic violence",[132]

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[131] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[132] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

Recalling further all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council, specifically those on women and peace and security and on children and armed conflict, and the Economic and Social Council, as well as those of the Human Rights Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, and relevant resolutions and processes of specialized agencies of the United Nations system on the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[133] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[134] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[134] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[135] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,[136]

Reaffirming also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[137] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[138] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[139] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[140] and the outcomes of their review conferences, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[141]

Welcoming the commitment to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[142] and in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixtieth session[143] and previous sessions, recognizing that women play a vital role as agents of development, and acknowledging that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is crucial to making progress across all Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Recalling the commitment to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, contained in Sustainable Development Goal 5, in particular target 5.2, and taking into account the commitment to leave no one behind,

Deeply concerned about violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, which is underrecognized and underreported, particularly at the community level, and its pervasiveness, which reflects discriminatory norms that reinforce stereotypes and gender inequality and the corresponding impunity and lack of accountability, reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres in all regions of the world, and re-emphasizing that violence against women and girls violates, and impairs their full enjoyment of, all human rights,

Recognizing that domestic violence remains widespread and affects women of all social strata across the world, and the urgent need to prevent and eliminate such violence, in this connection recognizing also the continuous efforts by relevant parts of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant United Nations entities, agencies and programmes, and noting the endorsement by the World Health

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[133] Resolution 217 A (III).

[134] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[135] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[136] Ibid., vols. 1577, 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[137] A/CONF/157/24 (Part I), chap III.

[138] Resolution 48/104.

[139] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[140] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[141] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[142] Resolution 70/1.

[143] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 7* (E/2016/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Assembly of the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system within a national multisectoral response to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls and against children,

Recognizing also that domestic violence can encompass but is not limited to the following elements, which can be understood differently in different contexts: battering, sexual abuse of women and girls in the household, incest, dowry-related violence, marital rape, intimate partner violence, femicide, female infanticide, crimes committed against women and girls in the name of so-called "honour", crimes committed in the name of passion, forced sterilization, forced abortion, coercive/forced use of contraception, forced pregnancy, sexual slavery and practices harmful to women and girls such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation,

Recognizing further that violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, is rooted in historical and structural inequality in power relations between men and women, seriously violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls and constitutes a major impediment to their full, equal and effective participation in society, the economy and political decision-making,

Recognizing that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social and economic policies and from the benefits of education and sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, impedes the social and economic and therefore the sustainable development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals,

Acknowledging the need to address violence against women and girls holistically, including through the recognition of linkages between violence against women and girls and other issues, such as HIV/AIDS, poverty eradication, food security, peace and security, humanitarian assistance, education, access to justice, health and crime prevention,

Recognizing the particular risk of violence faced by women and girls who suffer multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including older women, indigenous and migrant women and girls and women and girls with disabilities, and stressing the urgent need to address violence and discrimination against them,

Recognizing also that the persistence of armed conflicts in various parts of the world is a major impediment to the elimination of all forms of violence against women, and bearing in mind that armed conflict and other types of armed violence, including terrorism and hostage-taking, still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflicts are an ongoing reality affecting women and men in nearly every region, that States and the international community should place particular focus on the plight, and give priority attention and increased assistance to relieve the suffering, of women and girls living in such situations and ensure that, where violence is committed against them, all perpetrators of such violence are duly investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted and punished in order to end impunity, while stressing the need to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law,

Recognizing further that rape and other forms of sexual violence in armed conflict can constitute war crimes and grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 1949[144] and Additional Protocol I thereto,[145] that perpetrators of such violence must be held accountable and that there must be no impunity in this regard,

Acknowledging that trafficking in persons is one of the forms of transnational organized crime which expose women and girls to violence, including domestic violence, and that concerted efforts are needed to combat it, and in this regard stressing that the full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[146] as well as the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[147] will contribute to the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence,

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[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[145] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[146] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[147] Resolution 64/293.

Gravely concerned about the unprecedented number of refugees and displaced persons experiencing violence globally, including during their journey from country of origin to country of arrival, and recognizing the particular vulnerabilities of women and girls among refugees, displaced persons and migrants, and their potential exposure to discrimination and exploitation, as well as to sexual, physical, psychological and economic abuse, violence, including domestic violence, trafficking in persons and contemporary forms of slavery,

Gravely concerned also that domestic violence, including intimate partner violence, remains the most prevalent and least visible form of violence against women of all social strata across the world, and emphasizing that such violence is a violation, abuse or impairment of the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms and, as such, is unacceptable,

Recognizing the serious immediate and long-term implications for physical and psychological health, including sexual and reproductive health, and the effects that domestic violence against women and girls can present for individuals and families across generations,

Recognizing also the negative impact of domestic violence on women in the exercise of their economic and political rights, including through their access to employment, voting and holding public office, resulting in an impediment to women's empowerment and economic independence,

Underscoring the fact that shame, stigma, fear of reprisals and negative economic consequences, such as loss of livelihood or reduced household income, prevent many women and girls from leaving abusive relationships, reporting or acting as witnesses in cases of domestic violence and seeking redress and justice for these crimes,

Deeply concerned about the high level of impunity with regard to gender-related killing of women and girls, also known as femicide in certain regions of the world, and recognizing the key role of the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including in ending impunity for such crimes,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage places individuals, in particular girls, at risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence, including domestic violence, throughout their lives and constitutes a serious threat to multiple aspects of the physical and psychological health of women and girls, including but not limited to their sexual and reproductive health, significantly increasing the risk of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy, maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS, while increasing vulnerability to all forms of violence, and that every girl and woman at risk of or affected by child, early and forced marriage must have equal access to affordable quality services such as education, counselling, shelter and other social services, psychological, sexual and reproductive health-care services, medical care and legal assistance,

Reaffirming that female genital mutilation is a harmful practice and an act of violence against women and girls that impairs their human rights, constituting a serious threat to their health and well-being, including their psychological, sexual and reproductive health, increasing their vulnerability to HIV and possibly having adverse obstetric and prenatal outcomes, as well as fatal consequences for the mother and the newborn, and that the abandonment of this harmful practice can be achieved as a result of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society, including girls, boys, women and men,

Emphasizing that States should continue to adopt and implement legislation and policies in accordance with their obligations under international law, and in particular in accordance with relevant international human rights obligations and with their commitments, which address the issue of violence against women and girls in a comprehensive manner, not only by criminalizing violence against women and girls, providing for the prosecution of perpetrators and holding them accountable, but also by including protection and preventive measures and access to just and effective remedies for victims and survivors, with provisions for adequate funding for their implementation,

Stressing that States have the obligation, at all levels, to promote, protect and respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and hold to account the perpetrators of all forms of violence against women and girls, eliminate impunity and provide for effective access to appropriate remedies for victims and survivors, and should ensure the protection of women and girls, including adequate enforcement of civil remedies, orders of protection and criminal sanctions, and the provision of shelters, psychosocial services, counselling, health-care and other types of support services, in order to avoid revictimization, to promote an empowering environment, and that to do so contributes to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls subjected to violence,

Welcoming the major contributions made by civil society, including women's and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations, national human rights institutions where they exist, religious leaders, faith-based organizations, organizations active in the family field, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media, and by men and boys, in the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and recognizing the importance of having open, inclusive and transparent engagement with them in the gender-responsive implementation of local, national, regional and international agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Stressing the need to fully engage men and boys as agents and beneficiaries of change in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as allies in the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence,

Recognizing the critical contribution of family members in combating violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and that in preventing such violence the family can play an important role,

1. *Calls upon* all States to implement the commitment to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[142]

2. *Stresses* that "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women and girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life, including online, and notes the economic and social harm caused by such violence;

3. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls is a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits their ability to enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms and is rooted in gender inequality, deeply embedded negative social norms and stereotypes, poverty, inequality in the economic, social and cultural spheres and unequal power relations between men and women;

4. *Stresses* that domestic violence can take many different forms, including physical, psychological and sexual violence, economic deprivation and isolation, and neglect, and occurs within the family or domestic unit and generally between current or former partners or individuals who are related through blood or intimacy;

5. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, while recognizing that it is an impediment to the achievement of gender equality and to the full realization of their human rights, and while expressing concern that domestic violence is the most prevalent and least visible form of violence against women and girls and that its consequences are long-lasting and profound and affect many areas in the lives of victims;

6. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls persists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation, abuse or impairment of human rights and is a major impediment to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, sustainable development, peace, security and the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Urges* States to condemn violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and reaffirms that they should not invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination and should pursue, by all appropriate means and without delay, a policy of eliminating violence against women as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;[138]

8. *Stresses* that, despite the important steps taken by many countries around the world, States should continue to focus on the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as well as on their protection, their empowerment and the provision of services, and should therefore implement laws, policies and programmes for ending all forms of violence against women and girls and monitor and rigorously evaluate their implementation and improve, where possible, their impact, accessibility and effectiveness;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of ensuring that, in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and in natural disaster situations, the prevention of and response to all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence, are prioritized and effectively addressed, including, as appropriate, through the

investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators to end impunity, the removal of barriers to women's access to justice, the establishment of complaint and reporting mechanisms and the provision of support to victims and survivors;

10. *Further stresses* the need to leave no one behind in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in this regard recognizes the challenges faced by refugee and migrant women and girls and the need to protect and empower them, including in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and the need to strengthen the resilience of communities hosting refugees, and underscores the importance of development support for those communities, particularly in developing countries;

11. *Stresses* the need to address discrimination based on multiple and intersecting factors, which places women and girls at greater risk of exploitation, violence and abuse, and to take appropriate action to empower and protect them;

12. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, can take the form of an isolated act or pattern of abusive behaviour that may occur over a period of time, which as a pattern constitutes violence against women and girls, and can occur in digital and online spaces and include cyberbullying and cyberstalking;

13. *Notes* that efforts by civil society organizations in eliminating violence against women, including domestic violence, can be complementary to those of Governments, and in this regard urges States to support, where possible, initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and at preventing, responding to and protecting women and girls from domestic violence;

14. *Calls upon* States to take effective action to prevent and eliminate domestic violence without delay, including by:

(*a*) Adopting, strengthening and implementing legislation that prohibits domestic violence and adequately penalizes offences involving physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence occurring in families, and establishing adequate legal protection against such violence, including victim and witness protection from reprisals for bringing complaints or giving evidence;

(*b*) Preventing violations and taking steps to prevent abuses of all human rights of women and girls, devoting particular attention to abolishing practices and legislation that discriminate against women and girls, including, as applicable, provisions in civil, criminal and personal status law governing marriage and family relations, eliminating prejudices, harmful practices and gender stereotypes and raising awareness of the unacceptability of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, at all levels throughout their life course;

(*c*) Accelerating efforts to develop, review and strengthen inclusive and gender-responsive policies, including by allocating adequate resources, to address the structural and underlying causes of domestic violence against women and girls, to overcome gender stereotypes and negative social norms, to encourage the media to examine the impact of gender-role stereotypes, including those perpetuated by commercial advertisements, that foster gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and inequalities, to promote zero tolerance for such violence and to remove the stigma of being a victim and survivor of violence, thus creating an enabling and accessible environment where women and girls can easily report incidents of violence and make use of the services available, including protection and assistance programmes;

(*d*) Taking measures to ensure that all officials responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, protecting and assisting the victims and investigating and punishing acts of violence receive ongoing, adequate and gender- and culturally sensitive training to be aware of gender-specific needs, as well as of the underlying causes and short- and long-term impact of domestic violence;

(*e*) Evaluating and assessing the impact of current legislation, rules and procedures regarding violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, with a view to ensuring access to justice, improving rates of reporting and addressing the high attrition rate from reporting to conviction, and reinforcing, where necessary, criminal law and procedure relating to all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, with a focus on prevention and the protection of women and accessible and effective redress for victims;

(*f*) Ensuring the promotion and protection of the human rights of all women and their sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[140] the Beijing Platform for Action[139] and the outcome documents of their review conferences, including through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems that make universally accessible and available quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services, commodities, information and education, including safe and effective methods of modern contraception, emergency contraception, prevention programmes for adolescent pregnancy, maternal health care such as skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care, which will reduce obstetric fistula and other complications of pregnancy and delivery, safe abortion where such services are permitted by national law, and prevention and treatment of reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and reproductive cancers, recognizing that human rights include the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free from coercion, discrimination and violence;

15. *Urges* States to address structural and underlying causes and risk factors so as to prevent domestic violence, including by:

(*a*) Investing in the full realization of the right to education by, inter alia, eliminating illiteracy, developing equitable, quality, inclusive and gender-sensitive educational programmes, in particular in rural and remote areas, and by closing the gender gap at all levels of education, thereby ensuring that women and men and girls and boys are portrayed in positive, non-stereotypical roles and contributing to the empowerment of women and girls and to the elimination of domestic violence and all other forms of violence against women and girls;

(*b*) Emphasizing the important role that men and boys can play in preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and further developing and implementing measures that reinforce non-violent actions, attitudes and values and encourage men and boys to take an active part and become strategic partners and allies in the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, in order to break intergenerational cycles of violence;

(*c*) Promoting awareness among all stakeholders of the need to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls occurring in public or private life and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, inter alia through the regular and repeated use and funding of awareness-raising campaigns nationwide and other ways to promote prevention and protection and the transformation of discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes, as part of an integrated prevention strategy;

(*d*) Taking measures to empower women by, inter alia, strengthening their economic autonomy and ensuring their full and equal participation in society and in decision-making processes by adopting and implementing social and economic policies that guarantee women full and equal access to quality education and training and affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as full and equal access to financial resources and decent work, and full and equal rights to own and have access to and control over land and other property, and guaranteeing women's and girls' inheritance rights, and taking further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to violence;

(*e*) Adopting all appropriate measures in the field of education to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women of all ages in order to promote the development of respectful relations and to eliminate prejudices, harmful customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women, and raising awareness of the unacceptability of violence against women and girls at all levels, in the public and private spheres;

(*f*) Committing themselves to accelerate efforts to scale up scientifically accurate age-appropriate comprehensive education that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, with information on sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young people, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to end domestic violence;

(*g*) Preventing, combating and eliminating trafficking in women and girls by criminalizing all forms of trafficking in persons, as well as by raising public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, including the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking, and eliminating the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation and forced labour, and encouraging, where appropriate, the media to play a role with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children;

16. *Also urges* States to take effective action to protect victims of all forms of violence, including domestic violence, including by:

(*a*) Providing relevant, comprehensive and victim-centred legal protection to support and assist victims of domestic violence in a gender-sensitive manner, within the framework of their national legal systems, including, as appropriate, legislative or other measures throughout the criminal and civil justice system;

(*b*) Establishing comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary, accessible and sustained multisectoral services, programmes and responses for all victims and survivors of all forms of violence, including domestic violence, that are adequately resourced, include effective and coordinated action by, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, such as the police and the justice sector, as well as providers of legal aid services, health-care services, medical and psychological assistance, counselling services and protection, and, in cases of girl victims, ensure that such services, programmes and responses take into account the best interests of the child;

(*c*) Providing for access to appropriate remedies for victims and survivors, and ensuring the protection and empowerment of women and girls, including through adequate enforcement by the police and the judiciary of civil remedies, orders of protection and criminal sanctions;

(*d*) Establishing and/or strengthening police and health workers' response protocols and procedures to ensure that all appropriate actions are taken to protect victims of domestic violence, to identify acts of violence and to prevent further acts of violence and psychological harm, taking into account the need to ensure and maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the victim;

(*e*) Putting in place measures, and where they exist, expanding such measures, in order to ensure the availability and accessibility, for victims and survivors and their children, of services, programmes and opportunities for their full recovery and reintegration into society, as well as full access to justice, and ensuring the provision of adequate and timely information on available support services and legal measures, when possible in a language that they understand and in which they can communicate;

17. *Encourages* States to systematically collect, analyse and disseminate data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant parameters, including, where appropriate, administrative data from the police, the health sector and the judiciary, to monitor all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, such as data on the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim and geographical location, with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors, including law enforcement agencies, in order to effectively review and implement laws, policies, strategies and preventive and protective measures, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the victims;

18. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices, taking into account national priorities;

19. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations system, adequate resources should be assigned to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights of women and girls and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and calls upon the United Nations system to make the necessary support and resources available;

20. *Also stresses* the importance of the Secretary-General's Global Database on Violence against Women, expresses its appreciation to all those States that have provided the Database with information regarding, inter alia,

their national policies and legal frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women and girls and supporting victims of such violence, strongly encourages all States to regularly provide updated information for the Database, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilation and regular updating of pertinent information and to raise awareness of the Database among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

21. *Acknowledges* the work of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as requested by the Statistical Commission, on the development of guidelines to support the production by Member States of statistics on violence against women and girls;

22. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to prevent and eliminate domestic violence against women and girls;

23. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences to present an annual report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report containing:

(*a*) Information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution 69/147 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

(*b*) Information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-first and sixty-second sessions including information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutions 67/144 and 69/147 and the present resolution, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

26. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls at its seventy-third session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

RESOLUTION 71/171

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/478, para. 14)[148]

71/171. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decisions 2016/248 of 26 July 2016 and 2017/204 of 30 September 2016 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the note verbale dated 20 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[149] the note verbale dated 7 July 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[150] and the note verbale dated 15 September 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[151]

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[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Fiji, Lithuania and Paraguay.

[149] E/2016/61.

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 98 States to 101 States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at a coordination and management meeting in 2017.

RESOLUTION 71/172

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/478, para. 14)[152]

71/172. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[153] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-seventh session[154] and the decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing deep concern that the number of people who are forcibly displaced owing to, inter alia, conflict, persecution and violence, including terrorism, has reached the highest level since the Second World War,

Noting with grave concern that, despite the tremendous generosity of host countries and donors, including unprecedented levels of humanitarian funding, the gap between needs and humanitarian funding continues to grow,

Recognizing that forced displacement has, inter alia, humanitarian and development implications,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner,

Commending the staff of the Office of the High Commissioner and its partners for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

Underlining its strong condemnation of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are increasingly exposed,

Reaffirming the need for consistency with international law, including international refugee law, and relevant General Assembly resolutions that may concern the work of the Office of the High Commissioner, and taking into account national policies, priorities and realities,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and all subsequent General Assembly resolutions on the subject, including resolution 70/106 of 10 December 2015,

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[150] E/2016/78.

[151] E/2017/3.

[152] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[153] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/71/12).

[154] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/71/12/Add.1).

1. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and at assisting Governments in meeting their protection responsibilities;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its sixty-seventh session;[154]

3. *Welcomes* the resumption by the Executive Committee of the practice of adopting conclusions on international protection, and notes with appreciation the adoption of the conclusions on youth[155] and on international cooperation from a protection and solutions perspective;[156]

4. *Recalls* the high-level segments of the sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions of the Executive Committee, renews its call upon all States to provide the necessary support with a view to sharing the burden of the host countries, and underscores the critical importance of development support for host communities;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[157] and the two annexes thereto at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, on 19 September 2016, and encourages States to implement the commitments made therein;

6. *Notes* the significant global and regional initiatives, conferences and summits undertaken in 2015 and 2016 to strengthen international solidarity with and cooperation for refugees and other persons of concern, specifically the Brussels conference on 4 and 5 October 2016, the high-level meeting on global responsibility-sharing through pathways for admission convened by the Office of the High Commissioner in Geneva on 30 March 2016, the London conference on 4 February 2016, the pledging conference in Brussels on 21 October 2015, and the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, while recognizing that this summit did not have an intergovernmentally agreed outcome, and encourages those who participated to implement their commitments made therein;

7. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[158] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[159] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that 148 States are now parties to one or both instruments, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments and States parties with reservations to give consideration to withdrawing them, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

8. *Urges* States that are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto to respect their obligations in letter and spirit;

9. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes, in this context, the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

10. *Welcomes* recent accessions to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[160] and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[161] and notes that 89 States are now parties to the 1954 Convention and 68 States are parties to the 1961 Convention, encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

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[155] Ibid., chap. III, sect. B.

[156] Ibid., sect. A.

[157] Resolution 71/1.

[158] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[159] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[160] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[161] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

11. *Re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, in this regard welcomes the global campaign to end statelessness within a decade and encourages all States to consider actions they may take to further the prevention and reduction of statelessness, and welcomes efforts that have been made by States in this regard;

12. *Also re-emphasizes* that protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, aimed at, inter alia, facilitating voluntary, safe and dignified return to their homes;

13. *Notes* the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be carried out with the full consent of the affected States, consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions, and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

14. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to respond adequately to emergencies, in accordance with its mandate and in cooperation with States, notes the measures taken by the Office to strengthen its capacity to respond to emergencies, and encourages the Office to pursue its efforts to further strengthen its emergency capacity and thereby ensure a more predictable, effective and timely response;

15. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and in full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the continued development of humanitarian response capacities at all levels, and recalls the role of the Office as the leading entity of the clusters for protection, camp coordination and management and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

16. *Further encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, among other relevant United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian response and to contribute, in consultation with States, as appropriate, to making further progress towards common humanitarian needs assessments, as stated, among other important issues, in General Assembly resolution 70/106 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

17. *Welcomes* the recent efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure a more inclusive, transparent, predictable and well-coordinated response to refugees as well as internally displaced persons and other persons of concern, consistent with its mandate, and in this regard takes note of the implementation of the refugee coordination model;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the elements set out in the comprehensive refugee response framework contained in annex I to the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, and recalls the request to the Office of the High Commissioner to develop and initiate a comprehensive refugee response based on the principles of international cooperation and on burden- and responsibility-sharing, in close coordination with relevant States, including host countries, and involving other relevant United Nations entities as laid out in annex I to the New York Declaration;

19. *Underlines* the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime, recognizes the burden that large movements of refugees place on major and long-standing refugee hosting countries and their host communities, and their national resources, especially in the case of developing countries, and calls for a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, addressing the needs of refugees and receiving States, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States, noting the need for concrete arrangements for equitable and efficient burden- and responsibility-sharing to be elaborated within the framework of the evolving global compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees;

20. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to engage in and implement in full the objectives of the "Delivering as one" initiative;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken and efficiencies gained in the process of structural and management change to reinforce the capacity of the Office of the High Commissioner, and encourages the Office to focus on continuous improvement in order to enable a more efficient response to the needs of persons of concern, including identifying unmet needs, and to ensure the effective and transparent use of its resources;

22. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing threats to the safety and security of humanitarian aid workers and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need;

23. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not operate with impunity and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

24. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons and acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, and calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to respect and ensure respect for human rights and international humanitarian law;

25. *Deplores* the refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum seekers, and calls upon all States concerned to respect the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

26. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees in secure locations and to afford to the Office of the High Commissioner and, where appropriate, other humanitarian organizations prompt, unhindered and safe access to asylum seekers, refugees and other persons of concern;

27. *Notes with increasing concern* that asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons are subject to arbitrary detention in numerous situations and encourages working towards the ending of this practice, welcomes the increasing use of alternatives to detention, especially in the case of children, and emphasizes the need for States to limit detention of asylum seekers, refugees and stateless persons to that which is necessary, giving full consideration to possible alternatives;

28. *Notes with grave concern* the significant risks to which many refugees and asylum seekers are exposed as they attempt to reach safety, and encourages international cooperation to ensure adequate response mechanisms, including life-saving measures, reception, registration and assistance, as well as to ensure that safe and regular access to asylum for persons in need of international protection remains open and accessible;

29. *Expresses grave concern* at the large number of asylum seekers who have lost their lives at sea trying to reach safety, encourages international cooperation to further strengthen search and rescue mechanisms in accordance with international law, and commends the great life-saving efforts and actions taken by a number of States in this regard;

30. *Emphasizes* that the international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups and paying special attention to those with specific needs, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about the long-term impact of cuts in food rations on the health and well-being of refugees globally, particularly in Africa and the Middle East, and especially its impact on children, owing to insufficient funding and increased costs, and in this regard calls upon States to ensure sustained support for the Office of the High Commissioner and the World Food Programme, while looking to provide refugees with alternatives to food assistance, pending a durable solution;

32. *Welcomes* the positive steps taken by individual States to open their labour markets to refugees;

33. *Affirms* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and of State policies, also affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs of women, children and persons with disabilities in particular, and underlines the importance of continuing to work on those issues;

34. *Notes with concern* that a large proportion of the world's out-of-school population lives in conflict-affected areas, and welcomes the commitment in the New York Declaration to lend host countries support in providing quality primary and secondary education in safe learning environments for all refugee children, and to do so within a few months of the initial displacement, as well as the commitment made in the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all to developing more inclusive, responsive and resilient education systems to meet the needs of children, youth and adults in these contexts, including internally displaced persons and refugees;

35. *Notes* the efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to improve its humanitarian assistance response, and stresses the importance of tailored, innovative approaches, including cash-based interventions;

36. *Also notes* that the lack of civil registration and related documentation makes persons vulnerable to statelessness and associated protection risks, recognizes that birth registration provides an official record of a child's legal identity and is crucial to preventing and reducing statelessness, and welcomes efforts by States to ensure the birth registration of children;

37. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking durable solutions to refugee situations, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

38. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizes that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

39. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee situations and, in particular, the need to address in this process the root causes of refugee movements;

40. *Encourages* further efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to actively promote durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, with a focus on sustainable, timely, voluntary, safe and dignified return, which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States and other relevant actors to continue to support these efforts through, inter alia, the allocation of funds;

41. *Expresses concern* about the current low level of voluntary repatriation, encourages the solution-oriented approach pursued by the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of voluntary repatriation and reintegration, including from the onset of displacement, and in this regard urges the Office to further strengthen partnerships with national Governments and development actors, as well as international financial institutions;

42. *Recognizes*, in the context of voluntary repatriation, the importance of resolute efforts in the country of origin, including rehabilitation and development assistance, to foster the voluntary, safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration of refugees and to ensure the restoration of national protection;

43. *Acknowledges with appreciation* voluntary action taken by several host countries to enable permanent residence and naturalization for refugees and former refugees;

44. *Calls upon* States to create opportunities for resettlement as a durable solution, acknowledges with appreciation the many countries that continue to offer enhanced resettlement opportunities and recognizes the need

to further increase the number of resettlement places and the number of countries with regular resettlement programmes and to improve the integration of resettled refugees, calls upon States to ensure inclusive and non-discriminatory policies in their resettlement programmes, and notes that resettlement is a strategic protection tool and solution for refugees, recalling in this regard the annual resettlement needs identified by the Office of the High Commissioner;

45. *Also calls upon* States to consider creating, expanding or facilitating access to complementary and sustainable pathways to protection and solutions for refugees, in cooperation with relevant partners, including the private sector, where appropriate, including through humanitarian admission or transfer, family reunification, skilled migration, labour mobility schemes, scholarships and education mobility schemes;

46. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken by States to strengthen the regional initiatives that facilitate cooperative policies and approaches on refugees, and encourages States to continue their efforts to address, in a comprehensive manner, the needs of the people who require international protection in their respective regions, including the support provided for host communities that receive large numbers of persons who require international protection;

47. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed migratory flows in order to better address protection needs in the context of mixed migratory flows, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups, especially women, children and persons with disabilities, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and also notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

48. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

49. *Expresses concern* about the challenges associated with climate change and environmental degradation to the operations of the Office of the High Commissioner and the assistance it provides to vulnerable populations of concern across the globe, particularly in the least developed countries, and urges the Office to continue to address such challenges in its work, within its mandate, and in consultation with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies in its operations;

50. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources, including through financial and in-kind assistance, as well as direct aid to host countries, refugee populations and the communities hosting them, with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by countries and communities hosting refugees, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers, and whose generosity is appreciated;

51. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental, development, security and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and notes with appreciation those host countries, donor States, organizations and individuals that contribute to improving the condition of refugees through building the resilience of refugees and their host communities, while working towards a durable solution;

52. *Expresses concern* that the needs required to protect and assist persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner continue to increase and that the gap between global needs and available resources continues to grow, appreciates the continued and increasing hospitality of host countries and generosity of donors, and therefore calls upon the Office to continue and enhance efforts to broaden its donor base so as to achieve greater burden- and responsibility-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

53. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute[162] and by subsequent General Assembly

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[162] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolution 58/153 of 22 December 2003 and subsequent resolutions on the Office of the High Commissioner concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes;

54. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his annual activities to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/173

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/478, para. 14)[163]

71/173. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[164] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[165]

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[166] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[167] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Welcoming the entry into force on 6 December 2012 and the ongoing process of ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which mark a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative frameworks for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees and displaced persons, including exposure to discrimination and sexual and physical abuse, violence and exploitation and the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and in this regard acknowledging the importance of preventing, responding to and addressing sexual and gender-based violence as well as violations and abuses committed against refugee, returnee and displaced children,

Gravely concerned about the rising number of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the continent,

Acknowledging the efforts of Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other stakeholders in improving the situation of refugees,

Expressing grave concern about funding gaps in responding to various refugee situations in different parts of Africa, which are a major factor leading to the deterioration in living conditions in many refugee camps in Africa,

Recognizing that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases,

Recalling the high-level segment on the theme "Enhancing international cooperation, solidarity, local capacities and humanitarian action for refugees in Africa" of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva from 29 September to

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[163] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), China and Timor-Leste.

[164] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[165] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[166] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[167] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

3 October 2014, and the statement adopted on 30 September 2014 by States members of the Executive Committee,[168] and expressing deep concern that this particular event has not mobilized the necessary support for refugees and their hosting countries and communities,

Welcoming the hosting of the regional ministerial meeting on the Global Initiative on Somali Refugees, held in Addis Ababa on 20 August 2014, endorsing the Addis Ababa Commitment towards Somali Refugees adopted during the ministerial meeting, and welcoming the pledging conference, held in Brussels on 21 October 2015, to mobilize the support and resources needed to achieve solutions for Somali refugees through the creation of conditions conducive to safe and dignified returns as well as the enhancement of the sustainable integration of displaced persons,

Recalling the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region in 2006, and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact which are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation the generosity, hospitality and spirit of solidarity of African States that, despite their limited resources, continue to host a large number of refugees, owing to humanitarian crises and protracted refugee situations, in this regard expressing particular appreciation for the commitment and efforts of neighbouring countries in the recent humanitarian crises on the continent, welcoming efforts by African States that endeavour to facilitate the voluntary repatriation, local integration, resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees and to promote conditions conducive to the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of refugees in their country of origin, and also acknowledging with appreciation the coordination of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations as well as the continuing efforts of donors, the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, regional organizations, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other partners, with regard to, inter alia, integration, voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement, in addressing the plight of refugees during emergencies,

Recognizing that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory and need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, and burden- and responsibility-sharing, and recognizing also the efforts of all States in this regard,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem, in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

Recognizing the need to expand resettlement opportunities,

Recognizing also the need to encourage increased efforts towards voluntary return and local integration,

Welcoming the ongoing implementation of pledges made by States at the intergovernmental ministerial event held in 2011 to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[169]

Taking note of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, while recognizing that it did not have an intergovernmentally agreed outcome, and welcoming the commitment of the African Heads of State and Government, adopted by the African Union, on the theme "One Africa, One Voice, One Message at the World Humanitarian Summit",

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[170] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[171]

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[168] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/69/12/Add.1), annex I.

[169] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 989, No. 14458.

[170] A/71/354.

[171] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/71/12).

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its wider implementation;

3. *Notes* the need for African States to resolutely address the root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent so as to forestall flows of refugees;

4. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious and the number of refugees and internally displaced persons has dramatically increased, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

5. *Welcomes* decisions EX.CL/Dec.854 (XXVI) and EX.CL/Dec.877 (XXVII) adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 27 January 2015, and at its twenty-seventh ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 7 to 12 June 2015, on the humanitarian situation in Africa, insofar as they relate to persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the High Commissioner, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African States hosting large numbers of refugees, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

8. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in identifying, through a participatory approach, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee communities, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly;

9. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration into new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of displaced children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, as well as the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

10. *Recognizes* that no solution to displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of voluntary return, reintegration and resettlement;

11. *Reaffirms* the conclusion on civil registration adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its sixty-fourth session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 4 October 2013,[172] and recognizes the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

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[172] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/68/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

12. *Also reaffirms* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its fifty-second session,[173] notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

14. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern with regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

15. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

16. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

17. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

18. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity, which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all measures necessary to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

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[173] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

19. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, and encourages African States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and enforcing the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[174]

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community, donors and other entities concerned to continue and, where appropriate, to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical, legal and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular to those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers;

21. *Reaffirms* the right of return and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

22. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, and urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations;

23. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance that allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

24. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement, where appropriate and feasible;

25. *Expresses serious concern* about the expected reduction of the budget allocated to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa in 2016 and 2017;

26. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate;

27. *Urges* the international community, in the spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

28. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including the improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and the realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local

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[174] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

29. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, welcomes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[175] notes the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

30. *Encourages* African States, together with development and humanitarian actors, to work closely on multi-year strategies for refugees and internally displaced persons;

31. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Council and the General Assembly;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, taking fully into account, inter alia, the efforts expended by countries of asylum and those aimed at bridging funding gaps, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

RESOLUTION 71/174

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/479, para. 17),[176] by a recorded vote of 106 to 2, with 74 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Belarus, Israel

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu

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[175] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[176] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Botswana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

71/174. Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

Recalling also its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010, 66/136 of 19 December 2011, 67/151 of 20 December 2012, 68/144 of 18 December 2013, 69/155 of 18 December 2014 and 70/136 of 17 December 2015,

Having considered the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,[177],[178]

Takes note of the report of the Human Rights Council,[177] including the addenda thereto,[178] and its recommendations.

RESOLUTION 71/175

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/480, para. 29)[179]

71/175. Child, early and forced marriage

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/156 of 18 December 2014 on child, early and forced marriage,

Recalling its resolutions 70/138 of 17 December 2015 on the girl child and 69/147 of 18 December 2014 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 29/8 of 2 July 2015, entitled "Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage",[180] and all other previous resolutions relating to child, early and forced marriage,

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[181] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[182] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[182] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[183] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[184] together with the relevant Optional Protocols thereto,[185] as well as other relevant human rights instruments,

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[177] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53).

[178] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1); and ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and Corr.1).

[179] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

[180] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[181] Resolution 217 A (III).

[182] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[183] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[184] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[185] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[186] as well as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[187] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[188] and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

Taking note of the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-eighth[189] and sixtieth[190] sessions,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[191] and noting the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda and the range of goals and targets relevant to eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including target 5.3,

Noting with appreciation the launch of the United Nations Population Fund-United Nations Children's Fund Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage, in March 2016, as well as regional, national and subnational initiatives to end child, early and forced marriage, including the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage and the Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia, and further encouraging coordinated approaches to action at all levels,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[192] which summarizes progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage worldwide,

Expressing concern about the continued prevalence of child, early and forced marriage worldwide, including the fact that there are still approximately 15 million girls married every year before they reach 18 years of age and that more than 720 million women and girls alive today were married before their eighteenth birthday,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage is a harmful practice that violates, abuses or impairs human rights and is linked to and perpetuates other harmful practices and human rights violations and that such violations have a disproportionately negative impact on women and girls, and underscoring the human rights obligations and commitments of States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls and to prevent and eliminate the practice of child, early and forced marriage,

Noting with concern that poverty, insecurity and lack of education are among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage, that armed conflict and humanitarian emergencies are among the exacerbating factors and that child, early and forced marriage remains common in rural areas and among the poorest communities, and recognizing that the immediate alleviation and eventual eradication of extreme poverty must remain a high priority for the international community,

Noting with concern also that deep-rooted gender inequalities and stereotypes, harmful practices, perceptions and customs, and discriminatory norms are not only obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights and the empowerment of all women and girls but are also among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage, and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places children, in particular the girl child, at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage undermines women's and girls' autonomy and decision-making in all aspects of their lives and also that the empowerment of and investment in women and girls, as well as their meaningful participation in all decisions that affect them, are key factors in breaking the cycle of gender inequality and discrimination, violence and poverty and are critical, inter alia, for sustainable development, peace, security, democracy and inclusive economic growth,

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[186] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[187] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[188] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[189] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 7* (E/2014/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[190] Ibid., *2016, Supplement No. 7* (E/2016/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[191] Resolution 70/1.

[192] A/71/253.

Recognizing also that raising awareness of the harmful consequences of child, early and forced marriage, including among men and boys, can contribute to promoting social norms that support efforts by girls and their families to end this harmful practice,

Recognizing further men and boys as strategic partners and allies and that their meaningful engagement can contribute to transforming discriminatory social norms that perpetuate child, early and forced marriage, ending this practice and achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Noting with concern that child, early and forced marriage disproportionally affects girls who have received little or no formal education and is itself a significant obstacle to educational opportunities for girls and young women, in particular girls who are forced to drop out of school owing to marriage, pregnancy, childbirth and/or childcare responsibilities, and recognizing that educational opportunities are directly related to the empowerment of women and girls, their employment and economic opportunities and their active participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage constitutes a serious threat to multiple aspects of the physical and psychological health of women and girls, including but not limited to their sexual and reproductive health, significantly increasing the risk of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy, maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS, as well as increasing vulnerability to all forms of violence,

Recognizing also that the incidence and risk of child, early and forced marriage can increase during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict and natural disaster and that this requires increased attention, appropriate protection measures and coordinated action by relevant stakeholders, with the full and meaningful participation of the women and girls affected, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, and recognizing further the importance of addressing the increased vulnerability of women and girls to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation in those situations,

1. *Calls upon* States, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, including women and girls, parents and other family members, religious, traditional and community leaders, civil society, organizations led by girls, women's organizations, youth and human rights groups, men and boys, the media and the private sector, to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses and strategies to eliminate child, early and forced marriage, to support girls and women who are at risk or have been subjected to this practice, including through the strengthening of child protection systems, protection mechanisms such as safe shelters, access to justice and the sharing of best practices across borders;

2. *Also calls upon* States to enact, enforce and uphold laws and policies aimed at preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage and protecting those at risk, to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the informed, free and full consent of the intending spouses and to amend relevant laws and policies to remove any provision that enables perpetrators of rape, sexual abuse or abduction to escape prosecution and punishment by marrying their victims;

3. *Further calls upon* States to strengthen their efforts to ensure the timely registration of births and marriages, especially for individuals living in rural and remote areas, including by identifying and removing all physical, administrative, procedural and any other barriers that impede access to registration and by providing, where lacking, mechanisms for the registration of customary and religious marriages;

4. *Calls upon* States to enact, build awareness of, enforce and uphold laws concerning a minimum age of marriage and to progressively amend laws with lower ages of marriage and/or ages of majority;

5. *Also calls upon* States to promote the meaningful participation of and active consultation with children and adolescents, especially girls, on all issues affecting them and to raise awareness about their rights, including the negative impact of child, early and forced marriage, through safe spaces, forums and support networks that provide girls and boys with information, life skills and leadership skills training and opportunities to be empowered, to express themselves, to participate meaningfully in all decisions that affect them and to become agents of change within their communities;

6. *Further calls upon* States and encourages other stakeholders to address gender stereotypes, discriminatory social norms and harmful practices that contribute to the acceptance and continuation of the practice of child, early and forced marriage, including by raising awareness of its harm and the cost to society at large and by

providing opportunities for discussion, in this regard, among others, within communities, including with the involvement of girls and boys, women and men, religious, traditional and community leaders, and parents and other family members, on the benefits of ending child, early and forced marriage and ensuring that girls and boys receive an education;

7. *Recognizes* that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding and that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child, acknowledging the need to support their capacity to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage and reaffirming that the best interests of the child will be their basic concern;

8. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect the right of women and girls to equal access to education through enhanced emphasis on free and quality primary and secondary education, including catch-up and literacy education for those who have not received formal education or have left school early, including because of marriage and/or childbearing, which empowers young women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives, employment, economic opportunities and health, including through scientifically accurate, age-appropriate comprehensive education, relevant to cultural contexts, that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, with information on sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and the empowerment of women, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to contribute to ending child, early and forced marriage;

9. *Urges* States to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage by removing barriers to education, including by ensuring that married girls and boys, pregnant girls and women and young parents continue to have access to schooling, improving access to quality formal education and skills development, especially for those living in remote or insecure areas, improving the safety of girls at and on the way to and from school, providing safe and adequate sanitation, including for menstrual hygiene management, and adopting policies to prohibit, prevent and address violence against children, especially girls;

10. *Urges* Governments, with the collaboration of relevant stakeholders, to tackle poverty and lack of economic opportunities for women and girls as drivers of child, early and forced marriage, including by ensuring the rights of women and girls to inheritance and property, their equal access with men and boys to social protection, direct financial services, support and microcredit, to encourage girls to continue their education, to develop livelihood opportunities through access to technical and vocational education and training and life skills education, including financial literacy, and to promote women's equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as equal political participation and rights to inherit, own and control land and productive measures;

11. *Urges* States to ensure access to justice and accountability mechanisms and remedies for the effective implementation and enforcement of laws aimed at preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including by informing women, girls and boys about their rights under relevant laws, training law enforcement officers, the judiciary and professionals working with women and children and ensuring oversight of the handling of cases of child, early and forced marriage, improving legal infrastructure and removing all barriers to access to legal counselling, assistance and remedies;

12. *Urges* Governments to respect and protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems, including health information systems, that make universally accessible and available quality, gender-responsive, adolescent-friendly health services, sexual and reproductive health-care services, information and commodities, HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care, mental health services and nutrition interventions;

13. *Also urges* Governments to promote and protect the human rights of all women and girls, including the right of women, and those girls who have been subjected to child, early and forced marriage, to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, and to adopt and accelerate the implementation of laws, policies and programmes that protect and enable the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including

reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[187] the Beijing Platform for Action[188] and the outcome documents of their review conferences;

14. *Calls upon* States to develop, in consultation with women and, as appropriate, girls, and integrate into humanitarian responses, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, measures to address the increased vulnerability of women and girls to child, early and forced marriage and to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict and natural disaster, including by ensuring their access to such services as health-care and education;

15. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, civil society and other relevant actors and human rights mechanisms to continue to collaborate with Member States in developing and implementing strategies and policies at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, as well as to support those who were married as girls and boys;

16. *Affirms* the need for States to improve the collection and use of quantitative, qualitative and comparable data on violence against women and harmful practices, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, civil status, race, ethnicity, migratory status, geographical location, socioeconomic status, education level and other key factors, as appropriate, to enhance research and dissemination of evidence-based and good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of child, early and forced marriage and to strengthen monitoring and impact assessment of existing policies and programmes as a means of ensuring their effectiveness and implementation;

17. *Encourages* Governments to include information on progress towards eliminating child, early and forced marriage in their national reports to relevant international treaty bodies and the universal periodic review and within the national voluntary reviews conducted through the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly, before the end of its seventy-second session, on progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage worldwide, including, for the consideration of Member States, action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice, using information provided by Member States, United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

19. *Decides* to consider the issue of child, early and forced marriage at its seventy-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", taking into account the multifaceted and worldwide nature of the issue of child, early and forced marriage.

RESOLUTION 71/176

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/480, para. 29)[193]

71/176. Protecting children from bullying

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/158 of 18 December 2014 on protecting children from bullying, all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council that are relevant to the protection of children from bullying,

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[193] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[194] constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,[195] and noting the adoption of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Declaration of Principles on Tolerance,[196]

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its entirety,[197] including goals and targets aimed at ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children contained therein, and underscoring the importance of its implementation for ensuring the enjoyment of the rights of the child,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[198] including, in particular, the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Noting with appreciation the establishment of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the "High time to end violence against children" initiative of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and noting that they constitute platforms for multi-stakeholder engagement that can contribute to the prevention and elimination of violence against children, including forms of bullying,

Recognizing that bullying, including cyberbullying, can take both direct and indirect forms, from acts of violence and aggression to social exclusion, and that, although rates differ from country to country, bullying, online or in person, can have a negative impact on the rights of the child and is among children's main concerns, affecting a high percentage of children and compromising their health, emotional well-being and academic work, and acknowledging the need to prevent and eliminate bullying among children,

Recognizing also the importance of generating appropriate statistical information on bullying,

Concerned about the occurrence of bullying in different parts of the world and the fact that children who are victimized by such practices may be at heightened risk for a wide range of emotional problems, as well as potential long-term effects on the individual's ability to realize his or her own potential,

Concerned also that bullying is associated with long-lasting consequences that continue on into adulthood,

Noting with concern that children who are marginalized or vulnerable, who face stigmatization, discrimination or exclusion, are disproportionately affected by bullying, both in person and online,

Recognizing that bullying often includes a gender dimension and is associated with gender-based violence and stereotyping that negatively affects both boys and girls,

Noting the risks associated with the misuse of new information and communications technologies and applications, including increased vulnerability to bullying, while stressing that they can create new ways to enhance education and, inter alia, learn and teach about the rights of the child and can be useful tools to promote children's protection,

Noting also the role that information and communications technologies play in reducing the risk of sexual abuse and exploitation, including by empowering children to report such abuses,

Acknowledging the obligations and commitments of States to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, and, as appropriate, the implementation of educational measures to address behavioural practices that condone such violence,

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[194] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[195] Resolution 66/137, annex.

[196] See A/51/201, annex, appendix I.

[197] Resolution 70/1.

[198] A/71/213.

Acknowledging also that the environments surrounding children can affect their behaviour and the important roles that parents, legal guardians, family members, schools, civil society, communities, State institutions and the media have in securing children's protection from the risks associated with bullying and in preventing all forms of violence against children,

Stressing that children should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding, given the important role that family plays in this regard, and acknowledging that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians, have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child,

Recognizing that evidence-based initiatives to strengthen children's life skills and respect for human rights, tolerance, concern for others and the responsibility to foster safety, as well as whole-school and whole-community programmes that fully respect all human rights, constitute best practices that should be developed, strengthened and shared through international cooperation,

Acknowledging that children's participation and their contributions need to be at the centre of efforts to prevent and address bullying,

1. *Calls upon* Member States:

(*a*) To take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children, including in school, from any form of violence, including forms of bullying, by promptly responding to such acts, and to provide appropriate support to children affected by and involved in bullying;

(*b*) To continue to promote and invest in education, including as a long-term and lifelong process by which everyone learns tolerance and respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring such respect in all societies;

(*c*) To develop and implement, as appropriate, measures and restorative practices to repair harm, restore relationships, avoid recidivism, promote the accountability of perpetrators and change aggressive behaviour;

(*d*) To generate statistical information and data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant variables at the national level, and to provide information on disability, with regard to the problem of bullying, as a basis on which to elaborate effective public policies;

(*e*) To adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, clear and comprehensive measures, including, where required, legislation, that seek to prevent and protect children from bullying and provide for safe and child-sensitive counselling and reporting procedures and safeguards for the rights of affected children;

(*f*) To strengthen the capacities of schools in early detection and response to prevent and respond to bullying, including cyberbullying, in particular initiatives to mobilize support to prevent and address this phenomenon, and to ensure that children are informed of any existing public policies to secure their protection;

(*g*) To raise public awareness, involving family members, legal guardians, caregivers, young people, schools, communities, community leaders and the media, as well as civil society organizations, with the participation of children, regarding the protection of children from bullying;

(*h*) To involve children in the development of initiatives to prevent and address bullying, including available support services and safe, accessible, age- and child-sensitive, confidential and independent counselling and reporting mechanisms, and to inform them of available mental and physical health-care services and procedures in place to support them, where they exist, and encourages Member States to make such support services available;

(*i*) To share national experiences and best practices for preventing and tackling bullying, including cyberbullying;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to share with the Secretary-General, through existing processes and mechanisms, information about any initiatives undertaken at the national or subnational level to prevent and address bullying, including cyberbullying, to promote peaceful social interaction with a view to assessing progress, and to make use of the results achieved;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt appropriate measures, such as plans of action on the prevention of and response to bullying, drawing on the experience of Member States, the United Nations, regional organizations, academia and civil society actors and taking into account related recommendations of the entities of the United Nations system;

4. *Welcomes* the continued collaboration of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children with human rights bodies and mechanisms, within their respective mandates, including the special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, in order to support efforts to prevent and address violence against children, including bullying;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to facilitate further international efforts, in collaboration with Member States, to raise awareness of bullying, including through existing initiatives of United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to support, in cooperation with United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders, the organization of follow-up expert consultations at the regional level, promoted by Member States, upon their request, to raise awareness of the impact of bullying on the rights of the child and to share experiences and best practices in order to ensure the protection of children from bullying, to be pursued in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child[194] and the recommendations contained in his report;[198]

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

RESOLUTION 71/177

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/480, para. 29)[199]

71/177. Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, by which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[200] which constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, reaffirming also that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein, while bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention[201] and calling for their universal ratification and effective implementation, as well as that of other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also all of its previous resolutions on the rights of the child, the most recent of which was resolution 70/137 of 17 December 2015, and all other relevant resolutions, including 69/158 of 18 December 2014 on protecting children from bullying and 69/187 of 18 December 2014 on migrant children and adolescents,

Reaffirming further the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[202] which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, including that everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State and the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country,

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[199] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[200] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[201] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[202] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[203] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[203] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[204] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[205] the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[206] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[207] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[208] the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[209] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[210] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[211] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[212]

Reaffirming that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, provide the framework for actions concerning children,

Reaffirming also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[213] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[214] and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[215] recalling the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[216] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[217] and the outcome documents of their review conferences, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[218] the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,[219] the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[220] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[221] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[222] the Declaration on the Right to Development,[223] the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007,[224] the outcome document, entitled "The future we want", adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,[225] and the outcome document of the third Global

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[203] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[204] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[205] Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[206] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[207] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[208] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[209] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[210] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[211] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[212] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[213] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[214] Resolution 55/2.

[215] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[216] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[217] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[218] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[219] See resolution 2542 (XXIV).

[220] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No.E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[221] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[222] Resolution 69/2.

[223] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[224] Resolution 62/88.

[225] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Conference on Child Labour, held in Brasilia from 8 to 10 October 2013, and recalling also the World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development[226] and the World Education Forum 2015, held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 22 May 2015,

Underscoring the importance of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[227] in ensuring the enjoyment of the rights of the child,

Welcoming other international, regional and bilateral partnerships to advance the protection of the rights of the child, including the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, and recognizing that relevant multi-stakeholder coalitions are important to effectively promote and protect the rights of the child,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly[228] and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in resolution 70/137,[229] as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,[230] the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict[231] and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[232] whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States,

Reaffirming that States have the primary responsibility to respect, promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of the child,

Acknowledging the important role played by national governmental and local structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

Recognizing that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Noting with appreciation the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, by relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations and by relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation, environmental damage, climate change, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, all forms of exploitation, including for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation of children, such as child prostitution, child pornography and other sexual abuse material, child sex tourism and child sexual exploitation in travel and trafficking in children, including for the purpose of organ removal and for the transfer of organs of the child for profit, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

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[226] See A/69/76, annex, enclosure 2.

[227] Resolution 70/1.

[228] A/71/175.

[229] A/70/315.

[230] A/71/206.

[231] A/71/205.

[232] A/71/261.

Profoundly concerned also that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains negatively affected by the prolonged effects of the world financial and economic crisis, poverty and inequality, reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, recognizing its impact beyond the socioeconomic context and the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development, in this regard underlining the importance of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that a strong focus is needed on poverty, deprivation and inequality to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence and to promote the resilience of children, their families and communities,

Expressing deep concern that, despite the recognition of the right of the child to express his or her views freely on all matters affecting him or her, with his or her views given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, children are still seldom seriously consulted and involved in such matters owing to a variety of constraints and impediments and that the full implementation of this right has yet to be fully realized,

Deeply concerned that children disproportionately suffer the consequences of discrimination, exclusion, inequality and poverty,

Deeply concerned also that approximately 5.9 million children under the age of 5 die each year, mostly from preventable and treatable causes, owing to inadequate or lack of access to integrated and quality sexual, reproductive and maternal health-care services, as well as newborn and child health care and services, early childbearing, as well as lack of access to health determinants, such as safe drinking water and sanitation, safe and adequate food and nutrition, including breastfeeding, and that mortality remains highest among children belonging to the poorest and most marginalized communities,

Recognizing that the risk of maternal mortality is highest for girls under 15 years of age and that complications in pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death among girls under 15 years of age in many countries,

I

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto

1. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 10 of its resolution 68/147 of 18 December 2013, urges States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[209] and to the Optional Protocols thereto[210] as a matter of priority and to implement them effectively and fully, and encourages further efforts by the Secretary-General in this regard;

2. *Notes* the entry into force on 14 April 2014 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,[211] and calls upon States to consider its accession, ratification and implementation;

3. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;[212]

4. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and, taking into account the adoption of its general comments and its actions to follow up on its concluding observations on the implementation of the Convention and recommendations, calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations, observations and general comments on the implementation of the Convention;

5. *Also welcomes* the attention paid to the rights of the child by the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and, in this regard, their contribution to the progress achieved in the promotion and the protection of the rights of children;

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[211] Resolution 66/138, annex.

II

Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children

Non-discrimination

6. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 11 to 14 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination of any kind;

7. *Calls upon* States to develop gender- and age-sensitive policies and capacities to ensure the rights and address the particular needs of children, including migrant children, and prevent and respond to cases of gender-based violence;

8. *Notes with concern* the large number of children belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, migrant children, refugee or asylum-seeking children, internally displaced children, and children of indigenous origin who are victims of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views and the child's gender-specific needs, including children with special needs, in education programmes and programmes to combat these practices, and calls upon States to provide special support and to ensure equal access to services for those children;

9. *Urges* all States to respect, protect and promote the right of girls and boys to express themselves freely, and their right to be heard, to ensure that their views are given due weight, in accordance with their age and maturity, in all matters affecting them, and to involve children, including children with special needs, in decision-making processes, taking into account the evolving capacities of children and the importance of involving children's organizations and child-led initiatives;

10. *Recognizes* that discrimination against any child on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the child, and expresses grave concern that children with disabilities face violations of their human rights, as well as discriminatory, attitudinal and environmental barriers to their participation and inclusion in society and in the community;

Registration, family relations, adoption and alternative care

11. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 15 to 19 of its resolution 68/147, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in matters relating to birth registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care;

12. *Encourages* States to consider accession to or ratification of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction,[234] which takes into consideration the principle of the best interests of the child, and, in cases of international parental or familial child abduction, to engage in bilateral and, when appropriate, multilateral cooperation to resolve those cases by facilitating, inter alia, the return of the child to his or her country of habitual residence, where the appropriate court can make a custody decision, taking into consideration the principle of the best interests of the child;

Economic and social well-being of children

13. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 20 to 29 of its resolution 68/147, calls upon all States and the international community to create an enabling environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and affirms that investment in children has high economic and social returns and that all related efforts to ensure that resources allocated and spent for children, especially on children's education and health, should serve as a means for the fulfilment of the rights of the child;

14. *Emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national and subnational efforts and in raising the capacities, including at the community level, for the fulfilment of the rights of the child, through, inter

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[234] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1343, No. 22514.

alia, the enhancement of cooperation with the human rights mechanisms, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including through the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

15. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards poverty eradication, by fulfilling their previous commitments, implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[227] and mobilizing all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach based on the rights and well-being of children;

Child labour

16. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 30 to 33 of its resolution 68/147, and urges States to take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour and to end child labour in all its forms, by 2025 at the latest, and to promote education as a key strategy in this regard;

17. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying both the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[235] and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[236] of the International Labour Organization;

18. *Recognizes* that poverty and social exclusion, labour mobility, discrimination and lack of adequate social protection and educational opportunity, as well as lack of birth registration, all influence child labour;

Prevention and elimination of violence against children

19. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 39 of its resolution 68/147 and paragraphs 47 to 62 of its resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007 on the elimination of violence against children, condemns all forms of violence against children, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 34 of its resolution 68/147 and paragraph 3 of its resolution 69/158 and:

(*a*) To take effective and appropriate legislative and other measures to prohibit, prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against children in all settings, including harmful practices in all situations, and to strengthen international, national and local cooperation and mutual assistance in this regard;

(*b*) To protect children from all forms of violence, including by exercising due diligence, investigating, prosecuting and punishing the perpetrators of violence against all children and ending impunity, to provide protection as well as universal access to comprehensive social, physical and mental health and legal services and counselling for all victims and survivors, to ensure their full recovery and reintegration into society, and to address the structural and underlying causes of violence against all children through enhanced prevention measures, research and strengthened coordination and monitoring and evaluation;

(*c*) To address the gender dimension of all forms of violence against children and incorporate a gender perspective in all policies adopted and actions taken to protect children against all forms of violence and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, acknowledging that girls and boys face varying risks from different forms of violence at different ages and in different situations, including in schools;

20. *Also reaffirms* that violence against children is never justifiable and that it is the duty of States to protect children, including those in conflict with the law, from all forms of violence and human rights violations and to exercise due diligence to prohibit, prevent and investigate acts of violence against children, eliminate impunity and provide assistance to the victims, including preventing revictimization;

21. *Recalls* that 2016 marks the tenth anniversary of the submission of the United Nations study on violence against children to the General Assembly,[237] and welcomes the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in mainstreaming the study recommendations in the international, regional and national agenda;

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[235] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

[236] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

[237] See A/61/299.

22. *Expresses support* for the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, and recognizes the progress achieved since the establishment of her mandate in promoting the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children in all regions and in advancing the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children, including through her regional and thematic consultations and field missions and thematic reports addressing emerging concerns;

23. *Urges* all States, requests United Nations entities and agencies and invites regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to cooperate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in promoting the further implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children, encourages States to provide support to the Special Representative, including adequate voluntary financial support for the continued, effective and independent performance of her mandate, and invites organizations, including the private sector, to provide voluntary contributions for that purpose;

24. *Strongly condemns* the abduction of children, and calls upon all States to take all appropriate measures to secure their unconditional release, rehabilitation and reintegration and their reunification with their families or legal guardians, in accordance with the best interests of the child;

25. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[238] encourages States to take effective measures for their dissemination and implementation, as appropriate, and invites relevant United Nations actors to support Member States, where appropriate, to this end through concerted efforts;

Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations

26. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 40 to 48 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children, to implement evidence-based programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to health care and inclusive and equitable quality education and social services, to consider implementing voluntary repatriation, reintegration or resettlement where appropriate and feasible, family tracing and family reunification, in particular for children who are unaccompanied, and to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration;

27. *Calls upon* all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups and children in vulnerable situations, including migrant children and indigenous children, as well as children placed in alternative care and within the juvenile justice system and in detention, the enjoyment of all human rights regardless of migration status and access to health care, social services and education without discrimination and to ensure that all such children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, those separated from their parents and primary caregivers and those who are victims of violence and exploitation, receive appropriate protection and assistance;

28. *Calls upon* States to ensure that migrant children in need of protection, particularly unaccompanied migrant children and those separated from their parents or primary caregivers, are, giving primary consideration at all times to the best interests of the child, referred to the relevant national child protection authorities and other relevant authorities;

Children and the administration of justice

29. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 49 to 57 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law;

30. *Encourages* continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice;

31. *Encourages* States to develop and implement a comprehensive juvenile justice policy to protect and address the needs of children in contact with the law, with a view to promoting, inter alia, a commitment to

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[238] Resolution 69/194, annex.

improving the quality of education available to children placed in alternative care and within the juvenile justice system, crime prevention programmes, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion, restorative justice and community-based programmes that focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of the child, and ensuring compliance with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

32. *Reaffirms* paragraph 58 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of the sale and trafficking of children, including for the purposes of removal of organs of the child for profit, child slavery, forced labour and the sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, with the aim of eradicating those practices and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the rights and needs of victims effectively, including universal access to comprehensive social, physical and mental health and legal services, without discrimination of any kind, and counselling for all victims to ensure their full recovery and reintegration into society, and take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

Children affected by armed conflict

33. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 59 to 70 of its resolution 68/147, condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, in the recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, acknowledging that sexual violence in these situations disproportionately affects girls, but that boys are also targets, in recurrent attacks on schools and/or hospitals and related personnel, and in patterns of abduction of children, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end and prevent them, and to encourage age- and gender-specific support services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, and takes note in this regard of the adoption of Security Council resolution 2225 (2015) of 18 June 2015;

34. *Recalls* that 2016 marks the twentieth anniversary of resolution 51/77, by which the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict was created, welcomes the significant developments and achievements in the protection of children affected by armed conflict and in the implementation of the mandate since its creation, also welcomes the global consensus to end and prevent child recruitment and use in conflict and to protect them from all grave violations, further welcomes the efforts by the Special Representative to raise international awareness on the protection of children affected by armed conflict and the collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and regional organizations to improve the protection of children affected by armed conflict, and takes note with appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General and United Nations bodies to implement the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict;

35. *Urges* all States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to give serious attention to, and to protect and assist child victims of, all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed against children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949[239] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977;[240]

36. *Calls upon* States to protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian

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[239] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[240] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

assistance, noting the efforts taken to end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators, and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

37. *Remains deeply concerned*, however, over the lack of progress on the ground in some situations and the deterioration in other situations where parties to armed conflict continue to violate with impunity the relevant provisions of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict;

38. *Expresses its deep concern* about attacks, as well as threats of attacks, in contravention of applicable international law against schools and/or hospitals, and protected persons in relation to them, welcomes the publication of the guidance note on Security Council resolution 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 on attacks on schools and hospitals by the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and takes note of the adoption of Security Council resolution 2143 (2014) of 7 March 2014;

39. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the "Children, not soldiers" campaign initiated by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the United Nations Children's Fund, in collaboration with other United Nations partners, aimed at ending and preventing, by the end of 2016, the recruitment and use of children by the national security forces concerned, looks forward to continuing efforts in this regard by the States concerned, and requests the Special Representative to report on progress in her next report to the General Assembly;

III

Migrant children

40. *Reaffirms* the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,[241] welcomes the launch of a process of intergovernmental negotiations leading to the adoption of a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration in 2018, and stresses the centrality of full respect for the human rights of all migrants, including migrant children;

41. *Also reaffirms* its previous resolutions on migrant children and adolescents, on the protection of migrants and on violence against woman migrant workers, the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the protection of the human rights of all migrants and the work of the various special mechanisms of the Council that have reported on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, particularly migrant children;

42. *Further reaffirms* that everyone, including all children, is entitled to all human rights and fundamental freedoms, without distinction of any kind, wherever the child is and regardless of his or her migration status;

43. *Reaffirms* the duty of States to effectively promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, including those of women and children, regardless of their migration status, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[242] and the international instruments to which they are party;

44. *Also reaffirms* that States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, are responsible for promoting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, including accompanied and unaccompanied children, including adolescents, within their territorial jurisdiction, and encourages States to promote national child and adolescent protection systems, in consultation with all sectors of society, including migrant communities, civil society organizations and other relevant actors;

45. *Recognizes* that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses integrating development with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions and respecting human rights, and that migrants can make positive and profound contributions to economic and social development in their host societies and to global wealth creation;

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[241] Resolution 71/1.

46. *Expresses deep concern* regarding the large and growing number of migrant children, particularly those unaccompanied or separated from their parents or primary caregivers, who may be particularly vulnerable along their journey, and reaffirms the obligation of States to respect and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of those migrant children, regardless of their migration status, in accordance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights law;

47. *Recognizes* that the migration of accompanied and unaccompanied children may be the result of diverse causes and factors, such as poverty, lack of social and economic opportunities in their communities of origin, the death of one or both parents, the search for family reunification, all forms of violence and lack of personal safety and/or the adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters or environmental factors;

48. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In safety and dignity: addressing large movements of refugees and migrants",[242] including the recognition that respect for the human rights of all those who leave their countries, regardless of their migration status, is a fundamental tenet;

49. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable situations, in particular migrant children, and in this regard:

(*a*) Expresses concern about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the rights of migrants;

(*b*) Reaffirms that any type of return of migrant children, whether voluntary or otherwise, must be consistent with obligations under international human rights law and in compliance with the principle of non-refoulement;

(*c*) Reaffirms the commitment to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and discrimination against all migrants, including migrant children, and the stereotypes often applied to them, calls upon States to take measures to improve their integration and inclusion, as appropriate, with particular reference to access to education, health care, justice and language training with the aim of ensuring their adequate inclusion, as a positive asset to society, and in this regard welcomes the global campaign proposed by the Secretary-General to counter xenophobia;

50. *Encourages* States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[208] and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention;

51. *Welcomes* immigration programmes that allow migrant children to integrate fully into host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider the adoption of these types of programmes;

52. *Encourages* States to take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the study of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration[243] when designing and implementing their migration policies;

53. *Expresses the commitment* to protect the human rights of migrant children and to provide for their health, education and psychosocial development;

54. *Strongly reaffirms* that education is a fundamental human right, a basis for guaranteeing the realization of other human rights and is essential for sustainable development and the promotion of peace and tolerance, as well as key to achieving full employment and poverty eradication, and affirms that quality education provided in safe environments is instrumental in child protection strategies;

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[242] A/70/59.

[243] A/HRC/15/29.

55. *Encourages* all States to prevent and eliminate discriminatory policies and legislation at all levels of government that deny migrant children access to an inclusive, equitable and non-discriminatory quality education at all levels, including vocational training, while taking into account the best interests of the child as a primary consideration, to foster the successful integration of migrant children into the education system and the removal of barriers to their education in host countries and countries of origin, facilitating the recognition of educational records and/or administrative requirements for school registration;

56. *Recognizes* that the right of the child to education can be severely hampered as a result of physical, psychological and sexual violence, as well as bullying, both in school and on the way to school, as well as online, which compromises learning outcomes and may lead to school dropout, and therefore calls upon States to prevent and protect children, including migrant children, from bullying, including cyberbullying and other online risks, such as sexual violence and online exploitation, by generating statistical information, promptly and adequately responding to such acts and providing appropriate support and counselling to children affected by and involved in bullying;

57. *Notes with concern* that child, early and forced marriage disproportionally affects girls, including migrant girls, who have received little or no formal education and is itself a significant obstacle to educational opportunities for girls and young women, in particular girls who are forced to drop out of school owing to marriage and/or childbirth, recognizing that educational opportunities are directly related to women's and girls' empowerment, employment and economic opportunities and to their active participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making;

58. *Calls upon* States to make primary education available, free and compulsory for all children, ensure free, equitable and quality secondary education and ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education;

59. *Calls upon* all States to give full effect to the right to education for all children, including migrant children, by taking all appropriate measures to eliminate obstacles to effectively accessing and completing education, such as the cost of education, hunger and poor nutrition, distance from home to school, the institutionalization of children, armed conflicts, all forms of violence in school, insufficient infrastructure, including lack of access to water and sanitation, the lack of adequate and physically and otherwise accessible schooling facilities for girls and children with disabilities, including access to adequate sanitation, and child labour or heavy domestic work, and to ensure that children who are institutionalized also enjoy the right to education;

60. *Calls upon* States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, without discrimination of any kind and regardless of their migration status, to take effective and appropriate measures to ensure the right of all children to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as access to quality, affordable and equitable health care and social services, without discrimination of any kind, and to ensure that all children, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance;

61. *Calls upon* all States to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights of the child, including the rights of migrant children, to life, survival and development and to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health are promoted, protected and fulfilled, without discrimination of any kind, including through the development and implementation of laws, strategies and policies that have a human rights approach, with appropriate budgeting and resource allocation and adequate investment in resilient and responsive health systems and public health services, with an adequately skilled, well-trained and motivated workforce, ensuring their availability, accessibility, affordability, acceptability and quality;

62. *Encourages* States to take into account the Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children,[244] and to adopt and enforce laws and to improve the implementation of policies and programmes, budget allocation and human resources to support children, particularly children living in disadvantaged and marginalized families, to ensure that they are cared for effectively by their own families and communities, and to protect children growing up without parents or caregivers; where alternative care is necessary, decision-making should be in the best interests of the child, in full consultation with the child, as age appropriate, and with the child's legal guardians;

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[244] Resolution 64/142, annex.

63. *Notes with concern* that there are many cases of unaccompanied children going missing every year, and encourages States to sufficiently investigate all cases of missing unaccompanied children and take all measures necessary to increase their protection, including by, inter alia, enhancing national capacities to identify, register and document new arrivals;

64. *Recognizes* the particular vulnerability of migrants in transit situations, especially children, including through national borders, and the need to ensure full respect for their human rights in these circumstances also;

65. *Urges* States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations, including all migrant children, and to take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interests of the child, clarity of reception and care arrangements and family reunification;

66. *Encourages* States to put in place, if they have not yet done so, appropriate systems and procedures to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all actions or decisions concerning migrant children, regardless of their migration status, and to use alternatives to the detention of migrant children;

67. *Underlines* that children, including adolescents, should not be subject to arbitrary arrest or detention based solely on their migration status and that the deprivation of the liberty of migrant children and adolescents should be a measure of last resort, under conditions that respect the human rights of each child and in a manner that takes into account, as a primary consideration, the best interests of the child;

68. *Reaffirms* that all individuals who have crossed or are seeking to cross international borders are entitled to due process in the assessment of their legal status, entry and stay, also reaffirms that States will consider reviewing policies that criminalize cross-border movements and will also pursue alternatives to detention while these assessments are under way, and recognizes that detention for the purposes of determining migration status is seldom, if ever, in the best interests of the child and that States will use it only as a measure of last resort, in the least restrictive setting, for the shortest possible period of time, under conditions that respect their human rights and in a manner that takes into account, as a primary consideration, the best interests of the child, and will work towards the ending of this practice;

69. *Encourages* States to develop or enhance early childhood programmes targeted at assisting families facing especially difficult circumstances, including those headed by single parents or children, those living in the most vulnerable and disadvantaged situations and those living in extreme poverty or caring for children with disabilities;

70. *Recognizes* the importance of coordinating efforts among countries of origin, transit and destination, while also recognizing their roles and responsibilities to address the irregular migration of unaccompanied children and to safeguard their human rights, with due consideration for the protection of the best interests of the child;

71. *Requests* States to adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of migrants while in transit, including in ports and airports and at borders and migration checkpoints, to adequately train public officials who work in those facilities and in border areas to treat migrants respectfully and in accordance with their obligations under international law, including human rights law, and to take timely and appropriate measures to prevent the separation of migrant children from their parents or primary caregivers;

72. *Calls upon* countries of origin, transit and destination to facilitate family reunification as an important objective in order to promote the welfare and the best interests of migrant children, including adolescents, as applicable under national law, due process and the relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and to comply with the consular notification and access obligations set forth in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[745] so that States may provide child-friendly consular assistance, as appropriate, including legal assistance;

73. *Bears in mind* that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration, including those that refer to border control and the orderly management of migration, must be in accordance with international human rights obligations in order to uphold the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrant children;

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[745] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

74. *Reaffirms emphatically* the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, in particular with regard to the right of all foreign nationals, regardless of their migration status, to communicate with a consular official of the sending State in case of arrest, imprisonment, custody or detention and the obligation of the receiving State to inform the foreign national without delay of his or her rights under the Convention;

75. *Calls upon* all States to protect children deprived of their liberty from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to ensure that, if they are arrested, detained or imprisoned, children are provided with adequate legal assistance, that they have the right to maintain contact with their family through correspondence and visits from the moment that they are arrested, save in exceptional circumstances, and that no child is sentenced or subject to forced labour or corporal punishment or deprived of access to and provision of health care and services, hygiene and environmental sanitation, education, basic instruction and vocational training, and to undertake prompt investigations of all reported acts of violence and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable;

76. *Reaffirms* the importance of the principle of access to justice, including for migrant children, convinced that, without access to justice, basic human rights cannot be fully realized;

77. *Also reaffirms* that all migrant children are entitled to equal protection by the law and that all persons, regardless of their migration status, are equal before the courts and tribunals and, in the determination of their rights and obligations in a suit at law, are entitled to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law;

78. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect the rights of every child to be registered immediately after birth, to receive a birth certificate, to have a name from birth, to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, to know and be cared for by his or her parents, in particular where the child would otherwise be stateless;

79. *Urges* States to respect the right of every child, including migrant children, to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law without unlawful interference, and, where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, to provide appropriate assistance and protection, with a view to re-establishing speedily his or her identity;

80. *Expresses its concern* that migrant children, including adolescents, may be exposed to serious human rights violations and abuses at various points in their journey, which can threaten their physical, emotional and psychological well-being, in the countries of origin, transit and destination, and that many irregular migrant children and adolescents may not be aware of their rights and may be exposed to crimes and human rights abuses committed by, inter alia, transnational criminal organizations and common criminals and include theft, kidnapping, extortion, threats, trafficking in persons, forced labour, child labour, sexual abuse and exploitation, physical harm and death;

81. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level and the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to combat gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and discrimination against girls;

82. *Expresses its concern* about the increase in the activities and profits of transnational and national organized crime entities and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially migrant children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions, in flagrant violation of national laws and international law and contrary to international standards;

83. *Also expresses its concern* about the high level of impunity enjoyed by traffickers and their accomplices, as well as other members of organized crime entities, and in this context the denial of rights and justice to migrant children, including adolescents, who have suffered from abuse;

84. *Encourages* States to cooperate effectively in protecting witnesses in cases of the smuggling of migrants, regardless of their migration status;

85. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in their legislation, policies and practices, including on integration, return and family reunification;

86. *Underlines* the right of migrant children to return to their country of citizenship in conformity with the principle of the best interests of the child and with full respect for human rights, and recalls that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received;

87. *Stresses* the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation in the protection of the human rights of migrant children, and therefore:

(*a*) Welcomes the consideration afforded to the issues of migration, development and human rights in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(*b*) Encourages States to strengthen international cooperation to advance the protection of the rights of the child and in particular to promote the participation of children, as appropriate, in multi-stakeholder coalitions such as the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children;

(*c*) Encourages States to promote the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the facilitation of safe, orderly and regular migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies;

(*d*) Expresses serious concern about the situation of vulnerability and risk faced by migrants in transit and destination countries, in particular migrant children, including adolescents, who are unaccompanied or separated from their families, who are forced to flee or decide to leave their homelands owing to multiple causes, and calls upon States of origin, transit and destination to work together to find effective and sustainable solutions, including within a framework of solidarity and regional and international cooperation;

(*e*) Emphasizes the need for reliable statistical data disaggregated by sex, age and migratory status on international migration, including on migrant children, and in that regard calls upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrant children in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

(*f*) Recognizes all efforts made by Governments, all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the International Organization for Migration and other organizations of the Global Migration Group, and non-governmental stakeholders, including the private sector, in addressing international migration and development for the benefit of both migrants and societies, and bearing this goal in mind emphasizes the need to strengthen partnerships among all relevant stakeholders;

(*g*) Requests all States, international and national organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of unaccompanied children and irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

IV

Follow-up

88. *Recalls* its resolution 69/157 of 18 December 2014, in which it invited the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty, to be funded through voluntary contributions, in this regard encourages Member States and United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and offices, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the elaboration of the study, and invites the designated independent expert who will lead the study to update Member States on the progress made and to submit a final report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

89. *Decides*:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in the present resolution, with a focus on violence against children;

(*b*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(*c*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to continue to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, consistent with paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution 62/141, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the violence against children agenda;

(*d*) To request the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining in the prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the sexual exploitation and abuse of children;

(*e*) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-second session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

(*f*) To continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", focusing on section III of the resolution entitled "Rights of the child" on the theme "Violence against children".

RESOLUTION 71/178

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/481, para. 12)[246]

71/178. Rights of indigenous peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of indigenous peoples, reaffirming its resolutions 65/198 of 21 December 2010, 66/142 of 19 December 2011, 67/153 of 20 December 2012, 68/149 of 18 December 2013, 69/2 of 22 September 2014, 69/159 of 18 December 2014 and 70/232 of 23 December 2015, and recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 27/13 of 25 September 2014,[247] 30/4 of 1 October 2015[248] and 33/12 and 33/13 of 29 September 2016,[249]

Reaffirming the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2014,[250] in which Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States reiterated the important and continuing role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, recalling the inclusive preparatory process for the high-level plenary meeting, including the comprehensive engagement of the representatives of indigenous peoples, and welcoming and reaffirming the commitments, measures and efforts undertaken by States, the United Nations system, indigenous peoples and other actors in its implementation,

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[246] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[247] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[248] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[249] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[250] Resolution 69/2.

Encouraging the active engagement of indigenous peoples in the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including at the regional and global levels,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[251] stressing the need to ensure that no one is left behind, including indigenous peoples, who will benefit from and participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and encouraging Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of indigenous peoples while implementing the 2030 Agenda,

Welcoming also Human Rights Council resolution 33/25 of 30 September 2016,[249] in which the Council amended the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which shall provide the Council with expertise and advice on the rights of indigenous peoples as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[252] and assist Member States, upon request, in achieving the ends of the Declaration through the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the rights of indigenous peoples,

Reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which addresses their individual and collective rights,

Stressing the importance of promoting and pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also through international cooperation to support national and regional efforts to achieve the ends of the Declaration, including the right to maintain and strengthen the distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions of indigenous peoples and the right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State,

Welcoming the first World Indigenous Games, held in Palmas, Brazil, from 23 October to 1 November 2015 with the participation of indigenous athletes from more than 20 countries, as well as the second such event, to be held in Canada in 2017, and recognizing the Games as a celebration of the diversity of cultural and social expressions of indigenous peoples,

Recognizing that violence against indigenous women and girls has a negative impact on their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitutes a major impediment to women's full, equal and effective participation in society, the economy and political decision-making, and in this regard recalling Human Rights Council resolution 32/19 of 1 July 2016, entitled "Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including indigenous women and girls",[253] which brings closer attention to this issue,

Expressing concern that, in some cases, suicide rates in indigenous peoples' communities, in particular among indigenous youth and children, are significantly higher than in the general population,

Deeply concerned at the vast number of endangered languages, in particular indigenous languages, and stressing that, despite the continuing efforts, there is an urgent need to preserve, promote and revitalize endangered languages,

Recognizing the importance to indigenous peoples of revitalizing, using, developing and transmitting to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literature,

Bearing in mind the importance of promoting respect for the rights of indigenous children, in particular combating the worst forms of child labour, in accordance with international law, including relevant human rights law and international labour law obligations,

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[251] Resolution 70/1.

[252] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[253] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

Bearing in mind also the importance of the empowerment and capacity-building of indigenous women and youth, including their full and effective participation in decision-making processes in matters that affect them directly, including policies, programmes and resources, where relevant, that target the well-being of indigenous women and youth, in particular in the areas of health, education, employment and the transmission of traditional knowledge, languages and practices, and the importance of taking measures to promote awareness and understanding of their rights,

Recognizing the importance of access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and individuals and the need to examine and take steps to remove obstacles to justice, especially for indigenous women, indigenous youth and indigenous persons with disabilities,

Underlining the responsibility of transnational corporations and other business enterprises to respect all human rights, applicable laws and international principles[254] and operate transparently and in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and emphasizing the need to refrain from negatively affecting the well-being of indigenous peoples and to take further action towards corporate responsibility and accountability, including the prevention, mitigation and remediation of human rights abuses,

Recognizing the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment,

Recognizing also the importance of traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including traditional seed supply systems, as well as access to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including efficient irrigation, the reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage for indigenous peoples and others living in rural areas,

Recognizing further the importance of facilitating indigenous peoples' livelihoods, which may be achieved by, inter alia, the recognition of their traditions, adequate public policies and economic empowerment,

Recognizing that the economic empowerment, inclusion and development of indigenous peoples, including through the establishment of indigenous-owned businesses, can enable them to improve their social, cultural, civil and political engagement, achieve greater economic independence and build more sustainable and resilient communities, and noting the contribution of indigenous peoples to the broader economy,

Concerned about the extreme disadvantages that indigenous peoples have typically faced across a range of social and economic indicators and about the impediments to their full enjoyment of their rights,

Stressing the need to pay particular attention to the rights and special needs of indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including in the process of protecting and promoting their access to justice,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of indigenous peoples, takes note of her report,[255] and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to her requests for visits;

2. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples through their representatives and institutions, to continue to implement, when appropriate, measures at the national level, including legislative, policy and administrative measures, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[252] and to promote awareness of it among all sectors of society, including members of legislatures, the judiciary and the civil service, as well as among indigenous peoples, and invites international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, national human

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[254] Including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

[255] A/71/229.

rights institutions, where they exist, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and other relevant actors to contribute to those efforts;

3. *Underscores* the importance of implementing the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[250] and reiterates the commitment of Member States to cooperating with indigenous peoples, through their own representative institutions, to develop and implement national action plans, strategies or other measures, where relevant, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

4. *Encourages* Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of indigenous peoples in fulfilling the commitments undertaken in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[251] and in the elaboration of national programmes;

5. *Reaffirms* the decision to convene a high-level event to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to be held during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, in 2017, and that the event will take stock of the achievements of the preceding 10 years and assess the remaining challenges for the rights of indigenous peoples, and also consider the further follow-up to the Declaration, including the consideration of a third International Decade;

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to make the arrangements necessary for the high-level event that will be held during the sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in 2017, encourages the participation of Member States, the United Nations system, in particular the Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism and the Special Rapporteur, as well as indigenous peoples' representatives, institutions and organizations, in accordance with the established practice for their accreditation, and encourages Member States to raise awareness of this event;

7. *Encourages* States to organize activities to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at various levels, from local to national, including to raise public awareness of the Declaration, the progress achieved and the challenges remaining;

8. *Welcomes* the leadership of the Secretary-General and of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, as the responsible senior official of the United Nations system, in developing a system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[256] raising awareness of the rights of indigenous peoples and increasing the coherence of the activities of the system in this regard, and encourages the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to implement this plan in full alignment with national development needs and priorities;

9. *Encourages* Member States to work towards achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the light of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration;

10. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization[257] to consider doing so;

11. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues and the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, invites indigenous organizations and private institutions and individuals to do likewise, and notes the importance of accessibility, accountability, transparency and balanced geographical distribution in the management of these funds;

12. *Decides* to continue to observe in New York, Geneva and other United Nations offices every year on 9 August the International Day of Indigenous Peoples, requests the Secretary-General to support the observance of the Day from within existing resources, and encourages Governments to observe the Day at the national level;

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[256] E/C.19/2016/5 and Corr.1.

[257] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

13. *Proclaims* the year beginning on 1 January 2019 the International Year of Indigenous Languages, to draw attention to the critical loss of indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages and to take further urgent steps at the national and international levels, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the Year, in collaboration with other relevant agencies, within existing resources;

14. *Encourages* States to consider including in their reports related to indigenous peoples and women information on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 49/7 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Indigenous women: beyond the ten-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[258] and 56/4 of 9 March 2012, entitled "Indigenous women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication";[259]

15. *Also encourages* States to consider including in their voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum on sustainable development and their national and global reports information related to indigenous peoples on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bearing in mind paragraphs 78 and 79 of the 2030 Agenda, and further encourages States to compile disaggregated data to measure progress and to ensure that no one is left behind;

16. *Underlines* the need to intensify efforts, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and to support measures that will ensure their empowerment and full and effective participation in decision-making processes at all levels and in all areas and eliminate structural and legal barriers to their full, equal and effective participation in political, economic, social and cultural life;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of effective accountability with regard to violence against indigenous women and girls, including sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, and of taking adequate measures to combat such violence;

18. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on the Status of Women to place the issue of empowerment of indigenous women on the agenda of its sixty-first session as a focus area, and encourages States to participate actively in discussions on this issue;

19. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the commitment of States and the entities of the United Nations system to mainstream the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples into development policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels, and encourages them to give due consideration to the rights of indigenous peoples in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda;

20. *Invites* the Expert Mechanism, the Permanent Forum and the Special Rapporteur to give due consideration, within their mandates, to the rights of indigenous peoples as related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

21. *Encourages* Governments to redouble efforts to combat the worst forms of child labour, both in legislation and in practice, in the context of respect for the human rights of indigenous children, including through international cooperation, as appropriate;

22. *Encourages* States and entities of the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation, including to address the disadvantages faced by indigenous peoples, and to increase technical cooperation and financial assistance in this regard;

23. *Encourages* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to carry out research and evidence-gathering on the prevalence of suicide among indigenous youth and children and good practices on its

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[258] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[259] Ibid., *2012, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

prevention and to consider developing, as appropriate, strategies or policies, consistent with national priorities, in cooperation with Member States, to tackle it, including through consultation with indigenous peoples, in particular indigenous youth organizations;

24. *Reaffirms* the request to the President of the General Assembly to conduct, within existing resources, timely, inclusive, representative and transparent consultations with Member States, indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world, and existing relevant mechanisms of the United Nations, on the possible measures necessary, including procedural and institutional steps and selection criteria, to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them;

25. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made by the General Assembly at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples to consider ways to enable the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, and in this regard takes note with appreciation of the work undertaken thus far, led by the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session, in preparing a compilation of the views presented during the consultations, including good practices within the United Nations regarding indigenous peoples' participation, which will form the basis for a draft text to be finalized and adopted by the Assembly during its seventy-first session;

26. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples", and to maintain in the provisional agenda the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples".

RESOLUTION 71/179

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/482, para. 24),[260] by a recorded vote of 136 to 2, with 49 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Ukraine, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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[260] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

71/179. Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[261] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[262] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[263] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Recalling the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004[264] and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005[265] and relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 7/34 of 28 March 2008,[266] 18/15 of 29 September 2011[267] and 21/33 of 28 September 2012,[268] as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005, 61/147 of 19 December 2006, 62/142 of 18 December 2007, 63/162 of 18 December 2008, 64/147 of 18 December 2009, 65/199 of 21 December 2010, 66/143 of 19 December 2011, 67/154 of 20 December 2012, 68/150 of 18 December 2013, 69/160 of 18 December 2014 and 70/139 of 17 December 2015 on this issue, and its resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006, 62/220 of 22 December 2007, 63/242 of 24 December 2008, 64/148 of 18 December 2009, 65/240 of 24 December 2010, 66/144 of 19 December 2011, 67/155 of 20 December 2012, 68/151 of 18 December 2013 and 69/162 of 18 December 2014, and its resolution 70/140 of 17 December 2015, entitled "A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action",

Acknowledging other important initiatives of the General Assembly aimed at raising awareness about the suffering of victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all forms of discrimination, including in the historical perspective, in particular regarding commemoration of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

Recalling the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal and the Judgment of the Tribunal, which recognized as criminal, inter alia, the SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, through its officially accepted members implicated in or with knowledge of the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity connected with the Second World War, as well as other relevant provisions of the Charter and the Judgment,

Recalling also the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[269] in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraph 86 of the Programme of Action, as well as the relevant provisions of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference of 24 April 2009,[270] in particular paragraphs 11 and 54,

Alarmed, in this regard, at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, as well as racist extremist movements and ideologies,

Deeply concerned by all recent manifestations of violence and terrorism incited by violent nationalism, racism, xenophobia and related intolerance, including during sports events,

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[261] Resolution 217 A (III).

[262] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[263] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[264] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[265] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[266] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[267] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[268] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[269] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[270] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

Recognizing with deep concern the alarming increase in instances of discrimination, intolerance and extremist violence motivated by anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions and beliefs,

Recalling that the seventy-first session of the General Assembly coincides with the seventieth anniversary of the Judgment of the Nuremberg Tribunal,

Mindful of the horrors of the Second World War, and stressing in this regard that the victory over Nazism in the Second World War contributed to establishing the conditions for the creation of the United Nations, designed to prevent future wars and save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration[269] and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference,[270] in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, prepared in accordance with the request contained in its resolution 70/139;[271]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and his Office for their efforts to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including the maintenance by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the database on practical means to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

4. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification, in any form, of the Nazi movement, neo-Nazism and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials and holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, as well as by declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement participants in national liberation movements;

5. *Calls for* the universal ratification and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[263] and encourages those States parties that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration under its article 14, thus providing the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with the competence to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within their jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by a State party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention;

6. *Emphasizes once more* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that "any commemorative celebration of the Nazi regime, its allies and related organizations, whether official or unofficial, should be prohibited by States",[272] also emphasizes that such manifestations do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of the Second World War and negatively influence children and young people, and stresses in this regard that it is important that States take measures, in accordance with international human rights law, to counteract any celebration of the Nazi SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter;

7. *Expresses concern* about recurring attempts to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and in this regard urges States to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;[273]

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[271] A/71/325.

[272] Ibid., para. 68.

[273] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

8. *Notes with concern* the increase in the number of racist incidents worldwide, including the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting, inter alia, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities or on any other grounds, including arson attacks on houses and vandalization of schools and places of worship;

9. *Reaffirms* that such acts may be qualified as falling within the scope of the Convention, that they may not be justified when they fall outside the scope of the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association as well as the rights to freedom of expression and that they may fall within the scope of article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[262] and may be subject to certain restrictions, as set out in articles 19, 21 and 22 of the Covenant;

10. *Encourages* States to take concrete measures, including legislative and educational ones, in order to prevent the denial of the crimes against humanity and war crimes committed during the Second World War;

11. *Condemns without reservation* any denial of or attempt to deny the Holocaust, as well as any manifestation of religious intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities on the basis of ethnic origin or religious belief;

12. *Welcomes* the call of the Special Rapporteur for the active preservation of those Holocaust sites that served as Nazi death camps, concentration and forced labour camps and prisons, as well as his encouragement to States to take measures, including legislative, law enforcement and educational measures, to put an end to all forms of Holocaust denial;[274]

13. *Calls upon* States to continue to take adequate steps, including through national legislation, in accordance with international human rights law, aimed at the prevention of hate speech and incitement to violence against persons in vulnerable situations;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about attempts at commercial advertising aimed at exploiting the sufferings of the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Second World War by the Nazi regime;

15. *Stresses* that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization and by those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and may negatively influence children and young people, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter, including those related to the purposes and principles of the Organization;

16. *Also stresses* that such practices fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and in this regard calls for increased vigilance;

17. *Expresses concern* that the human rights and democratic challenges posed by extremist political parties, movements and groups are universal and no country is immune to them;

18. *Emphasizes* the need to take the measures necessary to put an end to the practices described above, and calls upon States and all other stakeholders to take more effective measures in accordance with international human rights law to prevent and combat those phenomena and extremist movements, which pose a real threat to democratic values, and to increase their vigilance and strengthen their efforts to recognize and effectively address those challenges;

19. *Underlines* the importance of data and statistics on racist and xenophobic crimes for identifying the types of offences committed, the profiles of victims and of perpetrators and whether they are affiliated with extremist movements or groups, thus enhancing better understanding of the phenomenon and identifying effective measures to address such racist and xenophobic crimes;

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[274] A/71/325, para. 80.

20. *Encourages* States to adopt further measures to provide training for the police and other law enforcement bodies on the ideologies of extremist political parties, movements and groups whose advocacy constitutes incitement to racist and xenophobic violence, to strengthen their capacity to address racist and xenophobic crimes, to fulfil their responsibility for bringing to justice the perpetrators of such crimes and to combat impunity;

21. *Expresses deep concern* about the increased number of seats occupied by representatives of extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character in a number of national and local parliaments, and emphasizes in this regard the need for all democratic political parties to base their programmes and activities on respect for human rights and freedoms, democracy, the rule of law and good governance and to condemn all messages disseminating ideas that are based on racial superiority or hatred and that have the objective of fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

22. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the call of the Special Rapporteur upon political leaders and parties to strongly condemn incitement to racial discrimination or xenophobia, to promote tolerance and respect and to refrain from forming coalitions with extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character;[275]

23. *Expresses concern* that ethnic profiling and police violence against persons in vulnerable situations discourage victims from seeking redress owing to distrust of the legal system, and in this regard encourages States to improve diversity within law enforcement agencies and to impose appropriate sanctions against those within the public service found guilty of racially motivated violence or of using hate speech;

24. *Expresses deep concern* about the increase in reported cases of racist and xenophobic manifestations during sports events, including those committed by extremist groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and calls upon States, sports federations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen measures to prevent such incidents, while also welcoming the steps that many States, sports federations and clubs have taken to eliminate racism at sporting events, including through sport practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which require human understanding, tolerance, fair play and solidarity;

25. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to introduce into national criminal law a provision according to which committing an offence with racist or xenophobic motivations or aims constitutes an aggravating circumstance, allowing for enhanced penalties,[276] and encourages those States whose legislation does not contain such provisions to consider that recommendation;

26. *Notes* measures taken by States to prevent discrimination against, in particular, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, people of African descent, Roma, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and to ensure their integration into society, and urges States to ensure the full and effective implementation of legal, policy and institutional measures protecting these individuals and groups, and recommends that States effectively guarantee to these individuals and groups, without discrimination of any kind, their human rights, including the right to safety and security, access to justice, adequate reparation and appropriate information about their rights, as well as the prosecution and adequate sanctioning of those responsible for racist and xenophobic crimes against them;

27. *Underlines* that the roots of extremism are multifaceted and must be addressed through adequate measures such as education, awareness-raising and the promotion of dialogue, and in this regard recommends the increase of measures to raise awareness among young people of the dangers of the ideologies and activities of extremist political parties, movements and groups;

28. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the particular importance of all forms of education, including human rights education, as a complement to legislative measures, and calls upon States to continue to invest in education, in both conventional and non-conventional curricula, inter alia, in order to transform attitudes and counteract ideas of racial hierarchies and superiority, and counter their negative influence, and to promote the values of non-discrimination, equality and respect for all, as outlined by the Special Rapporteur;

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[275] Ibid., para. 76.

[276] A/69/334, para. 81.

29. *Emphasizes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur presented at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in which he emphasized the importance of history classes in teaching the dramatic events and human suffering which arose out of the adoption of ideologies such as Nazism and Fascism;[277]

30. *Stresses* the importance of other positive measures and initiatives aimed at bringing communities together and providing them with space for genuine dialogue, such as round tables, working groups and seminars, including training seminars for State agents and media professionals, as well as awareness-raising activities, especially those initiated by civil society representatives, which require continued State support;

31. *Underlines* the positive role that relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play in the aforementioned areas;

32. *Reaffirms* article 4 of the Convention, according to which States parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[261] and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention, inter alia:

(*a*) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(*b*) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(*c*) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination;

33. *Also reaffirms* that, as underlined in paragraph 13 of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, that all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, or incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts, shall be declared offences punishable by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States, and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

34. *Recognizes* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including through the Internet, can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

35. *Expresses concern* about the increased use of the Internet to promote and disseminate racism, racial hatred, xenophobia, racial discrimination and related intolerance, and in this regard calls upon States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to counter the dissemination of the above-mentioned ideas while respecting their obligations under articles 19 and 20 of the Covenant, which guarantee the right to freedom of expression and outline the grounds on which the exercise of this right can be legitimately restricted;

36. *Recognizes* the need to promote the use of new information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

37. *Also recognizes* the positive role that the media can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, promoting a culture of tolerance and representing the diversity of a multicultural society;

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[277] A/64/295, para. 104.

38. *Encourages* States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to use all opportunities, including those provided by the Internet and social media, to counter, in accordance with international human rights law, the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred and to promote the values of equality, non-discrimination, diversity and democracy;

39. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the Convention to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority, as stressed by the Special Rapporteur;

40. *Notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation at the regional and international levels with the aim of countering all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular regarding issues raised in the present resolution;

41. *Stresses* the importance of cooperating closely with civil society and international and regional human rights mechanisms in order to counter effectively all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other similar extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

42. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to ensure that their legislation incorporates the provisions of the Convention, including those of article 4;

43. *Encourages* States to adopt the legislation necessary to combat racism while ensuring that the definition of racial discrimination set out therein complies with article 1 of the Convention;

44. *Recalls* that any legislative or constitutional measures adopted with a view to countering extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups and similar extremist ideological movements, should be in conformity with the relevant international human rights norms, in particular articles 4 and 5 of the Convention and articles 19 to 22 of the Covenant;

45. *Also recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2005/5,[265] that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in his future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

46. *Encourages* States to consider including in their reports for the universal periodic review and their reports to relevant treaty bodies information on the steps taken to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including with the aim of implementing the provisions of the present resolution;

47. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fifth session, reports on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular regarding paragraphs 4, 6, 7, 9, 14, 15, 29 and 30 above, based on the views collected in accordance with the request of the Commission, as recalled in paragraph 45 above;

48. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and non-governmental organizations that have provided information to the Special Rapporteur in the course of the preparation of his reports to the General Assembly;

49. *Stresses* that such information is important for the sharing of experiences and best practices in the fight against extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

50. *Encourages* Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the tasks outlined in paragraph 47 above;

51. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and relevant actors to disseminate, as widely as possible, information regarding the contents of and the principles outlined in the present resolution, including through the media, but not limited to it;

52. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

RESOLUTION 71/180

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/482, para. 24)[278]

71/180. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/161 of 18 December 2014,

Recalling also its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[279] on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;[280]

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its eighty-fifth and eighty-sixth[281] and its eighty-seventh, eighty-eighth and eighty-ninth[282] sessions;

3. *Recalls* the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, and reiterates its call for the universal ratification and effective implementation of the Convention by all States parties to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination;

4. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly, at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance";

5. *Decides* to consider, at its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", the reports of the Committee on its ninetieth and ninety-first, its ninety-second, ninety-third and ninety-fourth and its ninety-fifth sessions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the status of the Convention, including with regard to all reservations and declarations made, through the United Nations websites.

RESOLUTION 71/181

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/482, para. 24),[283] by a recorded vote of 133 to 9, with 45 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros,

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[278] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia.

[279] A/71/327.

[280] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[281] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/70/18).

[282] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/71/18).

[283] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation, and Thailand (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Czechia, Germany, Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine

71/181. A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference,[284] and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

Acknowledging the significance of 2016 as the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and calling upon States to honour the memory of victims of the historical injustices of slavery, the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism and apartheid,

Stressing that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance has the same status as the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields, and that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action remains a solid basis and the only instructive outcome of the World Conference, which prescribes comprehensive measures for combating all the scourges of racism and adequate remedies for victims,

Recalling the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination previously declared by the General Assembly, and regretting that the Programmes of Action for those Decades were not fully implemented and that their objectives have yet to be attained,

Reiterating that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

Underlining the intensity, magnitude and organized nature of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, and the associated historical injustices, as well as the untold suffering caused by colonialism and apartheid, and that Africans and people of African descent, Asians and people of Asian descent and indigenous peoples continue to be victims, and acknowledging that the ongoing effects must be remedied,

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[284] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

Acknowledging the efforts and initiatives undertaken by States to prohibit racial discrimination and racial segregation and to engender the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights,

Emphasizing that, despite efforts in this regard, millions of human beings continue to be victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their contemporary forms and manifestations, some of which manifest in violent forms,

Welcoming the efforts made by civil society in support of the follow-up mechanisms in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling the appointment of the five independent eminent experts by the Secretary-General on 16 June 2003, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/266 of 27 March 2002, with the mandate to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to make appropriate recommendations thereon, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of the role played, and noting the role still to be played, by those independent eminent experts in mobilizing global political will for concrete action for the total elimination of all the scourges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Underlining the primacy of the political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels needed to address all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance for the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling its resolution 2142 (XXI) of 26 October 1966, in which it proclaimed 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,

Recalling also its resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, in which it designated 25 March as the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

Welcoming, in the above context, the unveiling of the permanent memorial for the victims of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, *The Ark of Return*, on 25 March 2015,

Welcoming also the call upon all the former colonial Powers for reparations, consistent with paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action, to redress the historical injustices of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade,

Recalling the suffering of the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and the need to honour their memory,

Recognizing and affirming that the global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all their abhorrent and contemporary forms and manifestations is a matter of priority for the international community,

I

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Reaffirms* the paramount importance of universal adherence to and the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[285] adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965, in addressing the scourges of racism and racial discrimination;

2. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider acceding to and/or ratifying the Convention, and States parties to consider making the declaration under article 14 of the Convention, as well as to consider withdrawing reservations to article 4 of the Convention, as a matter of urgency, in view of the fact that the continued maintenance of reservations negates the essence of the instrument and defeats its objects and purposes;

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[285] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

3. *Underlines*, in the above context, that the provisions of the Convention do not respond effectively to contemporary manifestations of racial discrimination, in particular in relation to xenophobia and related intolerance, which is recognized as the rationale behind the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001;

4. *Takes note* of the acknowledgement by the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary structures of the existence of both procedural and substantive gaps in the Convention, which must be filled as a matter of urgency, necessity and priority;

5. *Expresses its concern* at the lack of progress in the elaboration of complementary standards to the Convention to fill existing gaps through the development of new normative standards aimed at combating all forms of contemporary and resurgent scourges of racism, and in this regard calls upon the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Council on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to ensure the commencement of the negotiations on the draft additional protocol to the Convention criminalizing acts of a racist and xenophobic nature;

6. *Requests* the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to present a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

II

International Decade for People of African Descent

7. *Welcomes* the proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, as contained in its resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013, and the celebratory launch of the Decade on 10 December 2014;

8. *Recalls* its resolution 69/16 of 18 November 2014 on the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, in which it recommended the establishment of a forum on people of African descent and giving consideration to the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent;

9. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent[286] and on a global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[287]

10. *Also takes note* of the report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent,[288] invites the Human Rights Council, through the Chair of the Working Group, to continue to submit a report on the work of the Working Group to the General Assembly, and in this regard invites the Chair of the Working Group to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" at its seventy-second session;

III

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

11. *Welcomes* the positive response by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the requests made by the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 6/22 of 28 September 2007,[289] and by the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/151 of 18 December 2013, to realign the work and the name of the former Anti-Discrimination Unit in the Office of the High Commissioner, and also welcomes its renaming as the Anti-Racial Discrimination Section and the realignment of its operational activities to focus exclusively on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Durban Declaration;[284]

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[286] A/71/290.

[287] A/71/399.

[288] A/71/297.

[289] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. I, sect. A.

12. *Also welcomes* the inclusion of the historic and landmark World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of 2001 among the 20 major achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner since the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action in 1993;[290]

13. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to pay attention to the situation regarding racial equality in the world and in this regard to consider appropriate ways and means of assessing it, identifying possible gaps and overlaps;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner to provide the resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards, and in this regard to ensure the participation of experts in each session of those follow-up mechanisms in order to provide advice on the specific issues under discussion and assist the mechanisms in their deliberations and the adoption of action-oriented recommendations in relation to the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

IV

Group of independent eminent experts on the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

15. *Reiterates* its requests to the Secretary-General, pursuant to its resolution 68/151, to revitalize and reactivate the operational activities of the group of independent eminent experts and in this regard to ensure the full functionality of the group by filling the existing vacancies, at the latest by the end of March 2017, in accordance with its resolution 56/266;

16. *Also reiterates* its invitation to the Human Rights Council, pursuant to paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 68/151, to ensure the visibility, effective participation and optimal utilization of the vast knowledge and experience of the group of independent eminent experts within its subsidiary structures, charged with the mandate of and responsibility for the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and in this regard requests the Council to submit a progress report to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

V

Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

17. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General, in 1973, of the Trust Fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination as a funding mechanism that has been utilized for the implementation of the activities of the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination declared by the General Assembly, and in this regard appreciates the fact that the Trust Fund has also been utilized for the subsequent programmes and operational activities transcending the three Decades;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reactivate and revitalize the Trust Fund, prior to the thirty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council, for the purpose of ensuring the successful implementation of the activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent and beyond;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, a section outlining the progress in the implementation of paragraph 18 of its resolution 68/151 regarding the revitalization of the Trust Fund for the purpose of ensuring the successful implementation of the activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent and enhancing the effectiveness of the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

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[290] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

20. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals, as well as other donors in a position to do so, to contribute generously to the Trust Fund, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

VI

Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

21. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[291] and encourages the Special Rapporteur, within his mandate, to continue to focus on the issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and incitement to hatred, which impede peaceful coexistence and harmony within societies, and to submit reports in this regard to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

22. *Reiterates* its previous invitation to the Special Rapporteur to consider examining national models of mechanisms that measure racial equality and their added value in the eradication of racial discrimination and to report on such challenges, successes and best practices in his next report;

VII

Follow-up and implementation activities

23. *Invites* the Human Rights Council to consider, at its thirty-fourth session, the question of developing a multi-year programme of activities to provide for the renewed and strengthened outreach activities needed to inform and mobilize the global public in support of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to strengthen awareness of the contribution that they have made in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

24. *Welcomes* the commemorative plenary meeting of the General Assembly held on 18 March 2016 to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, on the theme "Challenges and achievements of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action: 15 years after";

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

26. *Deplores* the ongoing and resurgent scourges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in many regions of the world, particularly targeting migrants and refugees, as well as people of African descent, expresses concern that political leaders and parties have supported such an environment, and in this context expresses its support for migrants and refugees in the context of the severe discrimination that they may face;

27. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Human Rights Council to continue to convene annual commemorative meetings of the Assembly and the Council during the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, with the appropriate focus and themes, and to hold a debate on racial profiling and incitement to hatred, including in the context of migration, with the participation of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this context encourages the participation of eminent personalities active in the struggle against racial discrimination, Member States and civil society organizations in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Council, respectively;

28. *Decides* to remain seized of this priority matter at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

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[291] A/71/325.

RESOLUTION 71/182

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/483, para. 22),[292] by a recorded vote of 132 to 53, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Colombia, Mexico, Switzerland, Tonga

71/182. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 70/142 of 17 December 2015, and Human Rights Council resolutions 15/12 of 30 September 2010,[293] 15/26 of 1 October 2010,[294] 18/4 of 29 September 2011,[295] 21/8 of 27 September 2012,[296] 24/13 of 26 September 2013,[297] 27/10 of 25 September 2014,[298] 30/6 of 1 October 2015[299] and 33/4 of 29 September 2016,[300] as well as all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit or use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the

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[292] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[293] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[294] Ibid., chap. I.

[295] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[296] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[297] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[298] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[299] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[300] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[301] as well as by the African Union,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[302]

Acknowledging with appreciation the work and contributions of the open-ended intergovernmental working group established by the Human Rights Council with the mandate of considering the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework, including the option of elaborating a legally binding instrument on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies,

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policies and economies of affected countries resulting from international criminal mercenary activities,

Extremely alarmed and concerned about recent mercenary activities in some developing countries in various parts of the world, including in areas of armed conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of the affected countries,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, they are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the latest report of the Working Group of the Human Rights Council on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[303]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing, protection and training are causes for grave concern to all States and that they violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers encourage, inter alia, the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges*, once again, all States to take the steps necessary and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control are not used for, and that their nationals do not take part in, the recruitment, assembly, financing, training, protection or transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in accordance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

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[301] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[302] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[303] A/71/318.

5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, and to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import military assistance or consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish national regulatory mechanisms for registering and licensing those companies in order to ensure that the imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Emphasizes its utmost concern* about the impact of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular when operating in armed conflicts, and notes that private military and security companies and their personnel are rarely held accountable for violations of human rights;

8. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the action necessary to accede to or ratify the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[304]

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that received a visit by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries and the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

10. *Condemns* recent mercenary activities in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination, and stresses the importance for the Working Group on the use of mercenaries of looking into sources and root causes, as well as the political motivations of mercenaries and for mercenary-related activities;

11. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with national law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

12. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

13. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

14. *Recalls* the holding of the fourth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group to consider the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies, expresses satisfaction at the participation of experts, including the members of the Working Group on the use of mercenaries, as resource persons at the above-mentioned session, and requests the Working Group and other experts to continue their participation during the fifth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group;

15. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue the work already done by the Special Rapporteurs on the use of mercenaries of the Commission on Human Rights with respect to the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur in his report to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session;[305]

16. *Also requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue to study and identify sources and causes, emerging issues, manifestations and trends regarding mercenaries or mercenary-related activities and their impact on human rights, particularly on the right of peoples to self-determination;

17. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

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[304] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

[305] See E/CN.4/2004/15, para. 47.

18. *Recommends* that all Member States, including those confronted with the phenomenon of private military and security companies, as contracting States, States of operations, home States or States whose nationals are employed to work for a private military and security company, contribute to the work of the open-ended intergovernmental working group, taking into account the initial work done by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries;

19. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group on the use of mercenaries in the fulfilment of its mandate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Working Group on the use of mercenaries with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

21. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

22. *Decides* to consider the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 71/183

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/483, para. 22)[306]

71/183. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[307] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been or are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

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[306] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[307] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first[308] and previous sessions,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 70/143 of 17 December 2015,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[309]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed in the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and with honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to violations of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 71/184

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/483, para. 22),[310] by a recorded vote of 177 to 7, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde,

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[308] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[309] A/71/326.

[310] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, South Sudan, Tonga

71/184. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

Bearing in mind the International Covenants on Human Rights,[311] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[312] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[313] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[314]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[315]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[316]

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[317] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[318]

Recalling the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[319]

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[311] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[312] Resolution 217 A (III).

[313] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[314] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[315] Resolution 50/6.

[316] Resolution 55/2.

[317] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[318] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 88.

[319] Ibid., para. 122.

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[320] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[321]

Stressing also the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling its resolution 70/141 of 17 December 2015,

Recalling also its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

RESOLUTION 71/185

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.1, para. 14)[322]

71/185. Human rights treaty body system

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[323] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[323] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[324] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[325] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[326] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[327] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[328] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[329] the

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[320] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[321] S/2003/529, annex.

[322] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[323] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[324] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[325] Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[326] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[327] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[328] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[329] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[330] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[331]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17 of 28 May 1985,

Recalling further its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

Recalling its resolutions 69/161 of 18 December 2014 and 70/131, 70/137, 70/144, 70/145, 70/146, 70/147 and 70/160 of 17 December 2015 as they relate to the human rights treaty body system,

Reaffirming that the full and effective implementation of international human rights instruments by States parties is of major importance to the efforts of the United Nations to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and that the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

Recognizing the important, valuable and unique role and contribution of each of the human rights treaty bodies in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including through their examination of the progress made by States parties to the respective human rights treaties in fulfilling their relevant obligations and their provision of recommendations to States parties on the implementation of such treaties,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the human rights treaty body system;[332]

2. *Welcomes* the annual reports of the human rights treaty bodies submitted to the General Assembly at its seventieth[333] and seventy-first[334] sessions and to the Economic and Social Council at its 2015[335] and 2016[336] sessions;

3. *Invites* the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions under the item relevant to the work of the treaty body;

4. *Encourages* all stakeholders to continue their efforts for the full implementation of resolution 68/268;

5. *Expresses appreciation* for the organization of discussions on matters related to the implementation of each human rights treaty at meetings of the States parties thereto, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such practices;

6. *Also expresses appreciation* for the opportunity to interact with the Chairs of the treaty bodies during their annual meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such opportunities;

7. *Further expresses appreciation* for the advisory services, capacity-building and technical assistance provided by the Secretary-General to support States parties in building their capacity to implement their treaty obligations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

8. *Reiterates* the request made in paragraph 40 of resolution 68/268 for the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the status of the human rights treaty body system.

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[330] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[331] Ibid., vol. 2375, No. 24841.

[332] A/71/118.

[333] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/70/18); ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/70/38); ibid., *Supplement No. 40* (A/70/40); ibid., *Supplement No. 44* (A/70/44); ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/70/48); ibid., *Supplement No. 55* (A/70/55); and ibid., *Supplement No. 56* (A/70/56); see also A/70/425.

[334] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/71/18); ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/71/38); ibid., *Supplement No. 40* (A/71/40); ibid., *Supplement No. 44* (A/71/44); ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/71/48); and ibid., *Supplement No. 56* (A/71/56); see also A/71/341.

[335] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 2* (E/2015/22).

[336] Ibid., *2016, Supplement No. 2* (E/2016/22).

RESOLUTION 71/186

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[337]

71/186. Human rights and extreme poverty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[338] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[339] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[339] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[340] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[341] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[342] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[343] and all other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, and its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007, by which it proclaimed the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), as well as its resolution 69/183 of 18 December 2014 and its previous resolutions on human rights and extreme poverty, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constituted a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action was therefore required to eliminate them,

Recalling also its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the effective understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 2/2 of 27 November 2006,[344] 7/27 of 28 March 2008,[345] 8/11 of 18 June 2008,[346] 12/19 of 2 October 2009,[347] 15/19 of 30 September 2010,[348] 17/13 of 17 June 2011[349] and 26/3 of 26 June 2014[350] on human rights and extreme poverty, and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

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[337] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[338] Resolution 217 A (III).

[339] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[340] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[341] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[342] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[343] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[344] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. I, sect. A.

[345] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[346] Ibid., chap. III, sect. A.

[347] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/65/53 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[348] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[349] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[350] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 21/11 of 27 September 2012,[351] by which the Council adopted the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights[352] as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate, and encouraging States to implement the guiding principles,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and that they seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Concerned that, during the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), while there has been progress in reducing poverty, especially in some middle-income countries, such progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women, children and older persons constituting the majority of those most affected, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[353] which states the right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[354] as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights,

Acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty, however, deeply concerned that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and is particularly severe in developing countries, and that it extends to and manifests itself in, among other things, social exclusion, hunger, vulnerability to trafficking in persons, disease, lack of adequate shelter, illiteracy and hopelessness,

Deeply concerned that gender inequality, violence and discrimination exacerbate extreme poverty, disproportionally impacting women and girls,

Stressing that special attention should be given to those who are living in extreme poverty and in vulnerable situations, in particular women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples,

Concerned by the challenges faced today, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, the global food crisis, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over food security, epidemics and large movements of refugees and migrants, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, and by the resulting increase in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and their negative effect on the capacity of all States, especially developing countries, to fight extreme poverty,

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[351] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[352] A/HRC/21/39.

[353] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[354] Resolution 41/128, annex.

Recognizing that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization that requires the coordination and continuation of inclusive policies through decisive national action and international cooperation, and also recognizing in this context the role of the private sector, including the corporate sector, in the eradication of extreme poverty,

Recognizing also that social protection systems make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations and are trapped in poverty and subject to discrimination,

Recognizing further that persistent and growing inequalities within and among countries are a major challenge to poverty eradication, particularly affecting those who are living in extreme poverty and in vulnerable situations,

Stressing the necessity of better understanding and addressing the multidimensional causes and consequences of extreme poverty,

Reaffirming that, since the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of all human rights and may, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community,

Stressing that respect for all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, is of crucial importance for all policies and programmes to fight extreme poverty,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that they contribute to the eradication of extreme poverty,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty, deep inequality and exclusion constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty and exclusion and that it is essential for people living in and affected by poverty and in situations of vulnerability to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic, social, cultural and civic life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, civil society, community-based social organizations, the private sector, including the corporate sector, the United Nations system and international financial institutions, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Also emphasizes* the need to accord due consideration and priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, consistent with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

5. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

6. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

7. *Reaffirms* the commitments contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[355] in particular the commitments to leave no one behind, to reach the furthest behind and the most vulnerable and to achieve

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[355] Resolution 70/1.

Sustainable Development Goal 1, including by sparing no effort to fight against and eradicate extreme poverty, which is currently measured as people living on less than 1.25 United States dollars a day, for all people everywhere by 2030;

8. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including women and girls;[356]

9. *Further reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals relating to the eradication of poverty, and to coordinate international support to that end;

10. *Recalls* that promoting universal access to social services and providing social protection floors can make an important contribution to consolidating and achieving further development gains and that social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are essential for protecting the gains made towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

11. *Encourages* States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes, to ensure gender mainstreaming and the promotion and protection of all human rights in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, throughout this process;

12. *Also encourages* States to take all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination against all persons, in particular those living in poverty, to refrain from adopting any laws, regulations or practices denying or limiting the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic, social and cultural rights, and to ensure that people, in particular those living in poverty, have equal access to justice;

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen and support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, recognizing their contributions to the efforts of developing countries to collaborate in the eradication of poverty, and stresses that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

14. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that are contributing to extreme poverty, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, the global food crisis, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over food security, epidemics and the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world, especially in developing countries, by enhancing cooperation to help to build national capacities;

15. *Reaffirms* the critical role of quality education and lifelong learning for all in achieving poverty eradication and other development goals, as envisaged in the 2030 Agenda, in particular free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education and training for eradicating illiteracy, efforts towards expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty, also reaffirms in this context the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the World Education Forum on 28 April 2000,[357] and the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030: Towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World Education Forum 2015, and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All programmes as tools for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 by 2030;

16. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to give high priority to the question of the relationship between extreme poverty and human rights, and also invites his Office to pursue further work in this area;

17. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental

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[356] See resolution 60/1.

[357] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

organizations and non-governmental organizations, to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty, and encourages the private sector, including the corporate sector, and international financial institutions to proceed likewise;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights,[352] adopted by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 21/11,[351] as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations and non-State actors, and the private sector, including the corporate sector, to consider the guiding principles in the formulation and implementation of their policies and measures concerning persons affected by extreme poverty;

20. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to disseminate the guiding principles, as appropriate;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of entities throughout the United Nations system to incorporate the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals set out therein into their work;

22. *Takes note* of the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extreme poverty and human rights, including his report submitted to the General Assembly at its seventieth session[358] and his report submitted to the Assembly at its seventy-first session,[359] and also notes the work of the Secretary-General to address the issues referred to therein;

23. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventy-third session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/187

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[360] by a recorded vote of 117 to 40, with 31 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint

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[358] A/70/274.

[359] A/71/367.

[360] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Yemen

Abstaining: Bahrain, Belarus, Cameroon, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Thailand, Tonga, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

71/187. Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[361] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[362] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[363]

Recalling the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,[364] and in this regard welcoming the increasing number of accessions to and ratifications of the Second Optional Protocol,

Reaffirming its resolutions 62/149 of 18 December 2007, 63/168 of 18 December 2008, 65/206 of 21 December 2010, 67/176 of 20 December 2012 and 69/186 of 18 December 2014 on the question of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, in which the General Assembly called upon States that still maintain the death penalty to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing it,

Welcoming all relevant decisions and resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Mindful that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,

Convinced that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to respect for human dignity and to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, and considering that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty,

Noting ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty, as well as the readiness of an increasing number of Member States to make available to the public information on the use of the death penalty, and also, in this regard, the decision by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 26/2 of 26 June 2014[365] to convene biennial high-level panel discussions in order to further exchange views on the question of the death penalty,

Recognizing the role of national human rights institutions in contributing to ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty,

Welcoming the considerable movement towards the abolition of the death penalty globally and the fact that many States are applying a moratorium, including long-standing moratoriums, either in law or in practice, on the use of the death penalty,

Emphasizing the need to ensure that persons facing the death penalty are treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity and in compliance with their rights under international human rights law,

Noting the technical cooperation among Member States, as well as the role of relevant United Nations entities and human rights mechanisms, in supporting State efforts to establish moratoriums on the death penalty,

Bearing in mind the work of special procedures mandate holders who have addressed human rights issues related to the death penalty within the framework of their respective mandates,

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[361] Resolution 217 A (III).

[362] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[363] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[364] Ibid., vol. 1642, No. 14668.

[365] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

1. *Reaffirms* the sovereign right of all countries to develop their own legal systems, including determining appropriate legal penalties, in accordance with their international law obligations;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 69/186[366] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Also welcomes* the steps taken by some States to reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed, as well as steps taken to limit its application;

5. *Further welcomes* initiatives and political leadership encouraging national discussions and debates on the possibility of moving away from capital punishment through domestic decision-making;

6. *Welcomes* the decisions made by an increasing number of States from all regions, at all levels of government, to apply a moratorium on executions, followed in many cases by the abolition of the death penalty;

7. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To respect international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, in particular the minimum standards, as set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984, as well as to provide the Secretary-General with information in this regard;

(*b*) To comply with their obligations under article 36 of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[367] particularly the right to receive information on consular assistance;

(*c*) To make available relevant information, disaggregated by sex, age and race, as applicable, and other applicable criteria, with regard to their use of the death penalty, inter alia, the number of persons sentenced to death, the number of persons on death row and the number of executions carried out, the number of death sentences reversed or commuted on appeal and information on any scheduled execution, which can contribute to possible informed and transparent national and international debates, including on the obligations of States pertaining to the use of the death penalty;

(*d*) To progressively restrict the use of the death penalty and not to impose capital punishment for offences committed by persons below 18 years of age, on pregnant women or on persons with mental or intellectual disabilities;

(*e*) To reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed;

(*f*) To ensure that those facing the death penalty can exercise their right to apply for pardon or commutation of their death sentence by ensuring that clemency procedures are fair and transparent and that prompt information is provided at all stages of the process;

(*g*) To establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;

8. *Calls upon* States which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it, and encourages them to share their experience in this regard;

9. *Encourages* States which have a moratorium to maintain it and to share their experience in this regard;

10. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;[364]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[366] A/71/332.

[367] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

RESOLUTION 71/188

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[368]

71/188. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[369] and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[370] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereto,[371] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[372] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[373] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[374] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[375] as well as all other relevant international treaties,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Recalling all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the subject of human rights in the administration of justice, including General Assembly resolution 69/172 of 18 December 2014 and Human Rights Council resolution 30/7 of 1 October 2015,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities,[376]

Welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[377]

Reaffirming the importance of international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including in relation to drug-related crimes, as recognized by Member States in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem",[378]

Welcoming the work of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council that address human rights in the administration of justice in the discharge of their mandates,

Taking note of the work of all human rights treaty body mechanisms on human rights in the administration of justice, inter alia, of general comments No. 21 on the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty,[379] No. 32 on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial[380] and No. 35 on liberty and security of person,[181] adopted by the Human Rights Committee, and general comments No. 10 on children's rights in juvenile justice[182] and No. 13 on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence,[183] adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child,

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[368] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[369] Resolution 217 A (III).

[370] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, No. 14668.

[371] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 1465 and 2375, No. 24841.

[372] Resolution 61/177, annex.

[373] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[374] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[375] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[376] A/71/169.

[377] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[378] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[379] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/47/40), annex VI.B.

[380] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/62/40), vol. I, annex VI.

Noting with appreciation the important work in the field of the administration of justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) as well as the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

Noting with appreciation also the thematic report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children entitled "Safeguarding the Rights of Girls in the Criminal Justice System: Preventing Violence, Stigmatization and Deprivation of Liberty", the report of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues concerning minorities in the criminal justice system[184] and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,[185]

Noting with satisfaction the work of the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice and of its members,

Encouraging continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and noting in this regard the World Congress on Juvenile Justice, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 January 2015,

Convinced that the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and the integrity of the judicial system as well as an independent legal profession are essential prerequisites for the protection of human rights, the rule of law, good governance and democracy and for ensuring that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice and should therefore be respected in all circumstances,

Recalling that every State should provide an effective framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations,

Emphasizing that the right to access to justice for all forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Welcoming the inclusion in Sustainable Development Goal 16,[186] on the promotion of just, peaceful and inclusive societies, of the target to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and to ensure equal access to justice for all,

Mindful of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

Recognizing the importance of the principle that, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Concerned about the negative impact of overincarceration and overcrowding on the enjoyment of human rights, and acknowledging that overincarceration constitutes one of the major underlying causes of overcrowding,

Recalling that the social rehabilitation and reintegration of persons deprived of their liberty shall be among the essential aims of the criminal justice system, ensuring, as far as possible, that offenders are able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life upon their return to society,

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[181] CCPR/C/GC/35.

[182] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/63/41), annex IV.

[183] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/67/41), annex V.

[184] A/70/212.

[185] A/71/298.

[186] See resolution 70/1.

Recognizing the need for Governments to take measures, within the justice system, particularly the criminal justice system, to prevent discrimination, inter alia, against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and to increase their effective participation within the system,

Aware of the need for special vigilance with regard to the specific situation of children, juveniles and women in the administration of justice, in particular while they are deprived of their liberty, and their vulnerability to various forms of violence, abuse, injustice and humiliation,

Reaffirming that children who are victims and witnesses of crime and violence are particularly vulnerable and require special protection, assistance and support appropriate to their age, level of maturity and needs, in order to prevent further hardship and trauma that may result from their participation in the criminal justice process,

Recognizing the specific situation and needs of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups when accused of crimes under international law allegedly committed while they were associated with armed forces or armed groups,

Reaffirming that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning the child in the administration of justice, including in relation to pretrial measures, as well as being an important consideration in all matters concerning the child related to sentencing of his or her parents, or, where applicable, legal guardians or primary caregivers,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice;[387]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of human rights of juveniles deprived of their liberty,[388] on access to justice for children[389] and on the human rights implications of overincarceration and overcrowding[390] and the joint report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children on prevention of and responses to violence against children within the juvenile justice system,[391] submitted to the Human Rights Council;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice, and invites States to assess their national legislation and practice against those standards;

4. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

5. *Appeals* to Governments to include, in their national development plans, the effective administration of justice and equal access to justice as an integral part of the development process, with a view to promoting and protecting human rights, and to allocate adequate resources for the provision of legal aid services, and invites the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

6. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system, as well as juvenile justice reform, and through the encouragement of independence, accountability and transparency in the judiciary, in order to establish and maintain stable societies and the rule of law in post-conflict situations, and welcomes the role of the Office of the High Commissioner in supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict situations;

7. *Reaffirms* that no one should be unlawfully or arbitrarily deprived of his or her liberty, and notes the principles of necessity and proportionality in this regard;

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[387] A/71/405.

[388] A/HRC/21/26.

[389] A/HRC/25/35 and Add.1 and A/HRC/27/25.

[390] A/HRC/30/19.

[391] A/HRC/21/25.

8. *Calls upon* States to apply individual criminal responsibility and to refrain from detaining persons based solely on their family ties with an alleged offender;

9. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that anyone who is deprived of his or her liberty through arrest or detention has prompt access to a competent court with the effective power to determine the lawfulness of the detention and to order release if the detention or imprisonment is determined not to be lawful and prompt access to legal counsel, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments;

10. *Calls upon* all States to consider establishing, maintaining or enhancing independent national mechanisms with the mandate to monitor all places of detention, including by making unannounced visits, and to hold private interviews without witnesses with all persons deprived of liberty, inter alia, in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);[377]

11. *Affirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism, including in the administration of justice, complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

12. *Recalls* the absolute prohibition of torture in international law, and calls upon States to address and prevent the detention conditions, treatment and punishment of persons deprived of their liberty that amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

13. *Calls upon* States to investigate promptly, effectively and impartially all alleged human rights violations suffered by persons deprived of their liberty, in particular cases involving death, torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to provide effective remedy to the victims, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments and to ensure that detention administrations fully cooperate with the investigating authority and preserve all evidence;

14. *Urges* States to endeavour to reduce, where appropriate, pretrial detention, which should be a measure of last resort and for as short a period as possible, inter alia, by adopting legislative and administrative measures and policies on its preconditions, limitations, duration and alternatives and by taking measures aimed at the implementation of existing legislation, as well as by ensuring access to justice and legal advice and assistance;

15. *Encourages* States to address overcrowding in detention facilities by taking effective measures, including through enhancing the availability and use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, bearing in mind the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)[392] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[393] access to legal aid, mechanisms for crime prevention, early release and rehabilitation programmes and the efficiency as well as the capacity of the criminal justice system and its facilities, bearing in mind the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems;[394]

16. *Continues to encourage* States to pay due attention to the Bangkok Rules when developing and implementing relevant legislation, procedures, policies and action plans, and invites relevant special procedure mandate holders, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all other relevant organizations to take those rules into consideration in their activities;

17. *Encourages* States to review penal policies that can contribute to overincarceration and overcrowding, in particular regarding so-called "zero-tolerance policies", such as the application of mandatory pretrial detention and mandatory minimum sentences especially for minor and/or non-violent crimes;

18. *Recognizes* that every child and juvenile alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the law, particularly those who are deprived of their liberty, as well as child victims and witnesses of crimes, should be treated in a manner consistent with his or her rights, dignity and needs, in accordance with international law, bearing in mind relevant international standards on human rights in the administration of justice, taking into account also the age, gender, social circumstances and development needs of such children, and calls upon States parties to the

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[392] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[393] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[394] Resolution 67/187, annex.

Convention on the Rights of the Child[374] and States parties to the Optional Protocols to the Convention[395] to abide strictly by their principles and respective provisions;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[396] and urges States to consider applying them, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms aimed at eliminating violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

20. *Recalls* its resolution 69/157 of 18 December 2014, in which it invited the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty, to be funded through voluntary contributions, and in this regard encourages Member States, United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and offices, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the elaboration of the study;

21. *Notes* the regional conference on oversight, inspection and monitoring of places where children are deprived of liberty in the framework of the criminal justice system organized in Buenos Aires on 19 and 20 May 2016 by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the United Nations Children's Fund, and the important recommendations that have been put forward in this regard;

22. *Encourages* States that have not yet integrated children's issues into their overall rule of law efforts to do so and to develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated juvenile justice policy to prevent and address juvenile delinquency and to address risks and causes for children's contact with the juvenile and/or criminal justice system, as well as with a view to promoting, inter alia, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, and complying with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

23. *Stresses* the importance of including reintegration strategies for former child offenders in juvenile justice policies, in particular through the provision of gender-sensitive education and life skills programmes, as well as treatment and services for substance abuse and mental health needs, with a view to their assuming a constructive role in society;

24. *Urges* States to take all necessary and effective measures, including legal reform where appropriate, to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children within the justice system, including within the informal justice system, where it exists;

25. *Also urges* States to ensure that, under their legislation and practice, neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release nor corporal punishment is imposed for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age, and encourages States to consider repealing all other forms of life imprisonment for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age;

26. *Encourages* States not to set the minimum age of criminal responsibility at too low an age level, bearing in mind the emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of the child, and in this respect notes the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to increase the lower minimum age of criminal responsibility to the age of 12 years as the absolute minimum age, and to continue to increase it to a higher age level;[380]

27. *Also encourages* States to gather relevant information, including through data collection and research, concerning children within their criminal justice systems so as to improve their administration of justice, while being mindful of the children's right to privacy, with full respect for relevant international human rights instruments, and bearing in mind applicable international standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

28. *Stresses* the importance of paying greater attention to the impact on children of imprisonment or other sentences imposed upon their parents, while noting with interest the convening of and reports on all relevant meetings and panel discussions on these issues held by the Human Rights Council;[397]

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[395] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[396] Resolution 69/194, annex.

[397] A/HRC/21/31 and A/HRC/25/33.

29. *Invites* Governments to provide for tailored and interdisciplinary human rights training, including anti-racist, multicultural, gender-sensitive and child rights training, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

30. *Invites* States, upon their request, to benefit from technical advice and assistance provided by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

31. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reinforce their technical assistance to States, upon request and in accordance with their respective mandates, to strengthen the national capacity-building of States in the field of the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, and in this context to strengthen cooperation with relevant United Nations entities;

32. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and of respecting the rule of law and human rights, including in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity, and in this respect requests the Secretary-General to further streamline and strengthen system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the joint global focal point for the police, justice and corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations;

33. *Invites* States, in the context of the universal periodic review mechanism and in their reports under international human rights treaties, to consider addressing the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice;

34. *Invites* relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as well as relevant treaty bodies, to give special attention to questions relating to the effective protection of human rights in the administration of justice, and to provide, wherever appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for advisory services and technical assistance measures;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the latest developments, challenges and good practices in human rights in the administration of justice, including on efforts to ensure equal access to justice for all through the independent, impartial and effective administration of justice, and on the activities undertaken by the United Nations system as a whole;

36. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its seventy-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/189

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[398] by a recorded vote of 131 to 34, with 19 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines,

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[398] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ghana, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine

71/189. Declaration on the Right to Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions on the promotion of the right to peace and the promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all, adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, in particular Council resolution 20/15 of 5 July 2012,[399]

Stressing that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all,

Welcoming the adoption by the Human Rights Council, by its resolution 32/28 of 1 July 2016,[400] of the Declaration on the Right to Peace,

1. *Adopts* the Declaration on the Right to Peace, as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Invites* Governments, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote universal respect and understanding thereof;

3. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right to peace at its seventy-third session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

Annex

Declaration on the Right to Peace

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[401] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[402] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[402] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[403]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,[404] the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[405] the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[406] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[407]

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[399] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[400] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. II.

[401] Resolution 217 A (III).

[402] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[403] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[404] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[405] Resolution 55/2.

[406] Resolution 70/1.

[407] Resolution 60/1.

Recalling further the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace,[408] the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace[409] and the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,[410] and other international instruments relevant to the subject of the present Declaration,

Recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[411]

Recalling also that the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[412] solemnly proclaimed the principle that States shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations; the principle that States shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered; the duty not to intervene in matters within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter; the duty of States to cooperate with one another in accordance with the Charter; the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples; the principle of the sovereign equality of States; and the principle that States shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed by them in accordance with the Charter,

Reaffirming the obligations of all Member States, as enshrined in the Charter, to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

Acknowledging that the fuller development of a culture of peace is integrally linked to the realization of the right of all peoples, including those living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[402] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Convinced that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of a State or country or at its political independence is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter, as stated in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Recognizing the importance of the settlement of disputes or conflicts through peaceful means,

Deeply deploring all acts of terrorism, recalling that the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism[413] declared that acts, methods and practices of terrorism constitute a grave violation of the purposes and principles of the United Nations and may pose a threat to international peace and security, jeopardize friendly relations among States, threaten the territorial integrity and security of States, hinder international cooperation and aim at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic bases of society, and reaffirming that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivations, whenever and by whomsoever committed,

Stressing that all measures taken in the fight against terrorism must be in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, as well as those enshrined in the Charter,

Urging all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to international instruments related to terrorism,

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[408] Resolution 33/73.

[409] Resolution 39/11, annex.

[410] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

[411] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[412] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[413] Resolution 49/60, annex.

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and the rule of law are essential to the fight against terrorism, and recognizing that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals, but are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming also the determination of the peoples of the United Nations, as expressed in the Preamble to the Charter, to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, and to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

Recalling that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizing that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Recognizing that peace is not only the absence of conflict but also requires a positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, and socioeconomic development is ensured,

Recalling that the recognition of the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, and recognizing that peace is promoted through the full enjoyment of all inalienable rights derived from the inherent dignity of all human beings,

Recalling also that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights can be fully realized,

Recalling further the world commitment to eradicate poverty and to promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, and the need to reduce inequalities within and among countries,

Recalling the importance of the prevention of armed conflict in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and of the commitment to promote a culture of prevention of armed conflict as a means of effectively addressing the interconnected security and development challenges faced by peoples throughout the world,

Recalling also that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women, on equal terms with men in all fields,

Reaffirming that, since wars begin in the minds of human beings, it is in the minds of human beings that the defence of peace must be constructed, and recalling the importance of the settlement of disputes or conflicts through peaceful means,

Recalling the need for strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs,

Recalling also that development assistance and capacity-building based on the principle of national ownership in post-conflict situations should restore peace through rehabilitation, reintegration and reconciliation processes involving all those engaged, and recognizing the importance of the peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding activities of the United Nations for the global pursuit of peace and security,

Recalling further that the culture of peace and the education of humanity for justice, liberty and peace are indispensable to the dignity of human beings and constitute a duty that all nations must fulfil in a spirit of mutual assistance and concern,

Reaffirming that the culture of peace is a set of values, attitudes, traditions and modes of behaviour and ways of life, as identified in the Declaration on a Culture of Peace, and that all this should be fostered by an enabling national and international environment conducive to peace,

Recognizing the importance of moderation and tolerance as values contributing to the promotion of peace and security,

Recognizing also the important contribution that civil society organizations can make in building and preserving peace, and in strengthening a culture of peace, *Stressing* the need for States, the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to allocate resources to programmes aimed at strengthening a culture of peace and upholding human rights awareness through training, teaching and education,

Stressing also the importance of the contribution of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training[414] to the promotion of a culture of peace,

Recalling that respect for the diversity of cultures, tolerance, dialogue and cooperation, in a climate of mutual trust and understanding, are among the best guarantees of international peace and security,

Recalling also that tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human, and the virtue that makes peace possible and contributes to the promotion of a culture of peace,

Recalling further that the constant promotion and realization of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as an integral part of the development of a society as a whole and within a democratic framework based on the rule of law would contribute to the strengthening of friendship, cooperation and peace among peoples and States,

Recalling the need to design, promote and implement, at the national, regional and international levels, strategies, programmes and policies, and adequate legislation, which may include special and positive measures, for furthering equal social development and the realization of the civil and political, economic, social and cultural rights of all victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recognizing that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, where they amount to racism and racial discrimination, are an obstacle to friendly and peaceful relations among peoples and nations, and are among the root causes of many internal and international conflicts, including armed conflicts,

Inviting solemnly all stakeholders to guide themselves in their activities by recognizing the high importance of practising tolerance, dialogue, cooperation and solidarity among all human beings, peoples and nations of the world as a means to promote peace; to that end, present generations should ensure that both they and future generations learn to live together in peace with the highest aspiration of sparing future generations the scourge of war,

Declares the following:

Article 1

Everyone has the right to enjoy peace such that all human rights are promoted and protected and development is fully realized.

Article 2

States should respect, implement and promote equality and non-discrimination, justice and the rule of law, and guarantee freedom from fear and want as a means to build peace within and between societies.

Article 3

States, the United Nations and specialized agencies should take appropriate sustainable measures to implement the present Declaration, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. International, regional, national and local organizations and civil society are encouraged to support and assist in the implementation of the present Declaration.

Article 4

International and national institutions of education for peace shall be promoted in order to strengthen among all human beings the spirit of tolerance, dialogue, cooperation and solidarity. To this end, the University for Peace should contribute to the great universal task of educating for peace by engaging in teaching, research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge.

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[414] Resolution 66/137, annex.

Article 5

Nothing in the present Declaration shall be construed as being contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. The provisions included in the present Declaration are to be understood in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[401] and relevant international and regional instruments ratified by States.

RESOLUTION 71/190

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[415] by a recorded vote of 130 to 53, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Chile, Costa Rica, Greece, Mexico, Peru

71/190. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 70/149 of 17 December 2015, and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/6 of 29 September 2011[416] and 33/3 of 29 September 2016,[417]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law, as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter, and with full respect for, inter alia, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

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[415] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[416] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[417] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[418] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Stressing that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

Concerned about the continued abuse by Member States of the extraterritorial application of their national legislation in a manner that affects the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the full enjoyment of human rights,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Noting with concern that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

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[418] Resolution 217 A (III).

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation at all levels,

Underlining the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

Deeply concerned that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

Recognizing that a democratic and equitable order requires the reform of international financial institutions, in order to widen and strengthen the level of participation of developing countries in the international decision-making process, and a more transparent and open financial system, as well as adequate measures against illicit financial flows, such as tax fraud, tax evasion, illegal capital flight, money-laundering and the proceeds of corruption, and for improving tax transparency worldwide,

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures at the global level that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Stressing also the need for adequate financing of, technology transfer to and capacity-building in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

Having listened to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council of 18 June 2007,[419] and stressing that all mandate holders shall discharge their duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

Emphasizing the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[420] for the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,

Resolved to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert of the Human Rights Council on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,[421] and in this regard notes, inter alia, its focus on the impact of taxation on human rights and the adverse impact of unfair fiscal and budgetary policies on the international order;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of

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[419] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[420] Resolution 70/1.

[421] A/71/286.

cultural diversity,[422] and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

5. *Declares* that democracy includes respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and reaffirms the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels;

6. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(*i*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(*j*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*k*) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*l*) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(*m*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in international economic, commercial and financial relations;

(*n*) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

(*o*) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, which should be exercised multilaterally;

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[422] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

7. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

8. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

9. *Reaffirms*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs;

10. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, social justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

12. *Underlines* that attempts to overthrow legitimate Governments by force disrupt the democratic and constitutional order, the legitimate exercise of power and the full enjoyment of human rights;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations, in accordance with relevant previous General Assembly resolutions, programmes of action and major conferences and summits in the economic, social and related areas;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

15. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

16. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order, as prescribed in the Charter of the United Nations, cannot be achieved only through the deregulation of trade, markets and financial services;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Independent Expert;

18. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Independent Expert in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to consider responding favourably to the requests of the Independent Expert to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

19. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

22. *Requests* the Independent Expert to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution, and invites the Independent Expert to continue his research into the impact of financial and economic policies pursued by international organizations and other institutions on a democratic and equitable international order, in particular by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund;

23. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/191

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[423]

71/191. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations and its importance for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reaffirming also all previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[424] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[425] the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[426] in particular Millennium Development Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[427] in particular the Sustainable Development Goals on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture and on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere,

Recalling also the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[428] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

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[423] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

[424] Resolution 217 A (III).

[425] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[426] Resolution 55/2.

[427] Resolution 70/1.

[428] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Bearing in mind the importance of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[429]

Reaffirming the importance of the recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[430] as well as the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, adopted in Rome on 21 November 2014,[431]

Acknowledging that the right to food is the right of every individual, alone or in community with others, to have physical and economic access at all times to sufficient, adequate, nutritious food, in conformity with, inter alia, the culture, beliefs, traditions, dietary habits and preferences of individuals, that is produced and consumed sustainably, thereby preserving access to food for future generations,

Reaffirming the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, adopted in Rome on 16 November 2009,[432]

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food and nutrition security and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the Declaration of the World Food Summit and the Rome Declaration on Nutrition, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter and that endanger food and nutrition security,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, as well as in the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food and nutrition security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

Recognizing that, despite the efforts made and the fact that some positive results have been achieved, the problems of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition have a global dimension, that there has not been sufficient progress in reducing hunger and that these problems could increase dramatically in some regions unless urgent, determined and concerted action is taken,

Recognizing also the complex character of the global food crisis, in which the right to adequate food has been threatened to be violated on a substantial scale, as a combination of several major factors, such as the effects of the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the impacts of global climate change, as well as natural disasters and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States, and the need for coherence and collaboration between international institutions at the global level,

Resolved to act to ensure that the human rights perspective is taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the realization of the right to food,

Stressing the possible benefits of international trade to improve food and nutrition availability,

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[429] A/57/499, annex.

[430] E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

[431] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annexes I and II.

[432] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

Stressing also that improving access to productive resources and investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and tackle water scarcity, as well as in programmes, practices and policies to scale up agroecological approaches,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in substantial loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food and nutrition security, in particular in developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern also over the negative effects of armed conflicts on the enjoyment of the right to food,

Emphasizing that a multisectoral approach that integrates nutrition across all sectors, including agriculture, health, water and sanitation, social protection and education, as well as a gender perspective, is critical to achieving global food and nutrition security and the realization of the right to food,

Recalling the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security[433] by the Committee on World Food Security at its thirty-eighth session, held on 11 May 2012, and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 144th session,

Recalling also the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[434] which were endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session, held from 13 to 18 October 2014,

Stressing the importance of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, hosted by the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014, and of its outcome documents, the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,

Stressing also the need to increase official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and the right to food for all,

Noting the cultural values of dietary and eating habits in different cultures, and recognizing that food plays an important role in defining the identity of individuals and communities and is a cultural component that describes and gives value to a territory and its inhabitants,

Recognizing the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", and recalling the commitment therein to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

Recalling also the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[435] and its guiding principles, which, inter alia, recognize the importance of promoting regular disaster preparedness and response and recovery exercises, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, as well as of fostering collaboration across global and regional mechanisms and institutions for the implementation and coherence of instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition and others, as appropriate,

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[433] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[434] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

[435] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Acknowledging the work done by the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers it intolerable* that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, more than one third of the children who die every year before the age of 5 die from hunger-related illness and that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about 795 million people in the world remain undernourished owing to the lack of sufficient food for the conduct of an active and healthy life, including as one of the effects derived from the global food crisis, while, according to the latter organization, the planet could produce enough food to feed everyone around the world;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the effects created by the world food crisis still continue to have serious consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly in developing countries, which have been further aggravated by the impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, and at the particular effects of the crisis on many net food-importing countries, especially least developed countries;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015*, the number of hungry people in the world remains unacceptably high and the vast majority of hungry people live in developing countries;

6. *Also expresses its deep concern* that, while women contribute more than 50 per cent of the food produced worldwide, they also account for 70 per cent of the world's hungry, that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases, and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

7. *Encourages* all States to mainstream a gender perspective in food security programmes and to take action to address de jure and de facto gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular when they contribute to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership and agricultural inputs, as well as full and equal access to health care, education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families, and in this regard stresses the need to empower women and strengthen their role in decision-making;

8. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue to mainstream a gender perspective in the fulfilment of her mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity to continue to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility of States is to promote and protect the right to food and that the international community should provide, through a coordinated response and upon request, international cooperation in support of national and regional efforts by providing the assistance necessary to increase food production and access to food, including through agricultural development assistance, the transfer of technology, food crop rehabilitation assistance and food aid, ensuring food security, with special attention to the specific needs

of women and girls, and promoting innovation, support for the development of adapted technologies, research on rural advisory services and support for access to financing services, and ensure support for the establishment of secure land tenure systems;

11. *Calls upon* all States and, if appropriate, relevant international organizations to take measures and support programmes that are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy, and in children, and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of 2 years;

12. *Also calls upon* all States and, where appropriate, relevant international organizations to implement policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity, as a result of malnutrition, of children under 5 years of age, and in this regard urges States to disseminate the technical guidance prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in collaboration with the World Health Organization[436] and to apply it, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms for remedy and redress aimed at eliminating preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age;

13. *Encourages* all States to take steps, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

14. *Recognizes* the advances reached through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

15. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investment, including private investment, in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and to tackle water scarcity;

16. *Recognizes* the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector to the realization of the right to food and to food security and the contribution of small-scale fishers to the local food security of coastal communities;

17. *Also recognizes* that 70 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas, where nearly half a billion family farmers are located, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises, including through the facilitation of access for their products to national and international markets and empowerment of small producers, particularly women, in value chains, is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

18. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[437]

19. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[438] and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture[439] as a matter of priority;

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[436] A/HRC/27/31; see also Human Rights Council resolution 33/11 (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II).

[437] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[438] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[439] Ibid., vol. 2400, No. 43345.

20. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[440] acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face in achieving the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

21. *Welcomes* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014,[441] and the commitment to developing, in conjunction with the indigenous peoples concerned and where appropriate, policies, programmes and resources to support indigenous peoples' occupations, traditional subsistence activities, economies, livelihoods, food security and nutrition;

22. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts, such as "food sovereignty", and their relation with food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

23. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations, within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all, including in the ongoing negotiations in different fields;

24. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting their enjoyment of the right to food;

25. *Takes note with appreciation* of the growing movement, in different regions of the world, towards the adoption of framework laws, national strategies and measures in support of the full realization of the right to food for all;

26. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

27. *Calls for* a successful, development-oriented outcome of the outstanding issues of the Doha Round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization as a contribution to creating international conditions that permit the full realization of the right to food;

28. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

29. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as non-communicable diseases;

30. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and once again invites all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the funding necessary to realize the right to food, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, and to achieve the aims of Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[427] and other food and nutrition-related targets;

31. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, alongside the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

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[440] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[441] Resolution 69/2.

32. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

33. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs, and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

34. *Also stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights should consider implementing that agreement in a manner that is supportive of food security, while being mindful of the obligation of Member States to promote and protect the right to food;

35. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across different regions, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

36. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on its realization;

37. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,[442] which addresses, inter alia, factors affecting nutrition, including industrial food systems, unhealthy eating environments and the growing threat of non-communicable diseases;

38. *Recognizes* the importance of giving due consideration to the adverse impact of climate change and to the full realization of the right to food, takes note of the Paris Agreement, adopted at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015,[443] and welcomes the organization of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties in Marrakech, Morocco;

39. *Also recognizes* the impact of climate change and of the El Niño phenomenon on agricultural production and food security around the world and the importance of designing and implementing actions to reduce its effects, in particular on vulnerable populations, such as rural women, bearing in mind the role that they play in supporting their households and communities in achieving food and nutrition security, generating income and improving rural livelihoods and overall well-being;

40. *Reiterates its support* for the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for its effective fulfilment;

41. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),[444] in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person, indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights and inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

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[442] A/71/282.

[443] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[444] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V.

42. *Recalls* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),[445] in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring sustainable access to water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

43. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[430] represent a useful tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security, and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals and to support national Governments in the implementation of food security and nutrition policies, programmes and legal frameworks;

44. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in her task, to supply all necessary information requested by her and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable her to fulfil her mandate more effectively;

45. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue her work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food within her mandate;

46. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of her mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

47. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/192

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[446] by a recorded vote of 146 to 3, with 39 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

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[445] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

[446] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador and Palau.

71/192. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[447] as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[448] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[448]

Recalling also the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, which confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Stressing the importance of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, and that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[449] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Reaffirming the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[450]

Recognizing the importance of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[451] reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development informed the 2030 Agenda, along with other relevant international instruments, and underlining the fact that the Sustainable Development Goals can be realized only through a credible, effective and universal commitment to the means of implementation by all stakeholders,

Recognizing also the significance of all the events held to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which contributed towards according the right to development the great attention that it deserves and presented the international community with an opportunity to demonstrate and reiterate its political commitment to the implementation and realization of the right to development,

Deeply concerned that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its outcome document,[452]

Reaffirming the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

Taking note of the commitment declared by a number of specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations to make the right to development a reality for all, and in this regard urging all relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations to mainstream the right to development into their objectives, policies, programmes and operational activities, as well as into development and development-related processes, including the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

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[447] Resolution 217 A (III).

[448] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[449] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[450] Resolution 55/2.

[451] Resolution 70/1.

[452] Resolution 69/2.

Recalling the outcomes adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015,

Expressing deep concern over the lack of substantial progress on the Doha Development Agenda,[453] and calling upon all members of the World Trade Organization to support the completion of the Doha Round, placing at its centre the development dimension,

Recalling the outcome of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, on the theme "From decision to action: moving towards an inclusive and equitable global economic environment for trade and development",[454]

Recalling also all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998[455] on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development,

Recalling further the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 25 April to 3 May 2016, as contained in the report of the Working Group[456] and as referred to in the report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[457]

Recalling the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as a priority, including through the elaboration of a convention on the right to development by the relevant machinery, taking into account the recommendations of relevant initiatives,

Reiterating its continuing support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[458] as a development framework for Africa,

Expressing its appreciation for the efforts of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development and the members of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development in completing the 2008–2010 three-phase road map established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007,[459]

Deeply concerned about the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

Recognizing that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

Recognizing also that Member States should cooperate with one another in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, that the international community should promote effective international cooperation, in particular to revitalize a global partnership for development, for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of obstacles to development and that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Recognizing further that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

Recognizing that extreme poverty and hunger are among the greatest global threats and require the collective commitment of the international community for their eradication, pursuant to Millennium Development Goal 1 and

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[453] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[454] See TD/519 and Add.1 and 2.

[455] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[456] A/HRC/33/45.

[457] A/HRC/33/31.

[458] A/57/304, annex.

[459] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. III, sect. A.

Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

Recognizing also that historical injustices, inter alia, have contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing further that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, which requires a multifaceted and integrated approach, and committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Emphasizing that all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Emphasizing also that the right to development should be central to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Encouraging relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to cooperate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the fulfilment of his mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development,

1. *Welcomes* the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[460] and stresses the importance of the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with regard to the promotion, protection and realization of the right to development, while fully recognizing its distinct nature and intrinsic value;

2. *Takes note* of the consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner concerning the promotion and realization of the right to development;[457]

3. *Welcomes* the holding of a one-day high-level segment of the General Assembly on 23 September 2016 on the margins of the general debate of its seventy-first session, to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, in which the international community demonstrated and reiterated its unequivocal commitment to the right to development, recognized the high profile that it deserves and redoubled its efforts to implement that right;

4. *Acknowledges* other events held in 2016 to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, including the convening, during the thirty-first session of the Human Rights Council, of the annual high-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming, on the theme "The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and human rights, with an emphasis on the right to development", and the panel discussion on the promotion and protection of the right to development, during the thirty-second session of the Council;

5. *Also acknowledges* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development, as renewed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3 of 24 September 2008,[461] and recognizes the need for renewed efforts towards intensifying deliberations in the Working Group to fulfil its mandate at the earliest;

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[460] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[461] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

7. *Reaffirms* the recommendations adopted by the Working Group at its seventeenth session,[456] and calls for their immediate, full and effective implementation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant actors, noting also the efforts under way within the framework of the Working Group with a view to completing the tasks entrusted to it by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4;[459]

8. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[451] which seeks to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and also in this regard to lead the raising of the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[449] to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

9. *Stresses* that the views, criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria, once considered, revised and endorsed by the Working Group, should be used, as appropriate, in the elaboration of a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Working Group taking appropriate steps to ensure respect for and the practical application of the above-mentioned standards, which could take various forms, including the elaboration of guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and evolve into a basis for the consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature through a collaborative process of engagement;

11. *Acknowledges* the commencement of the work on the standards for the implementation of the right to development based on relevant United Nations resolutions and documents, including the Declaration on the Right to Development, relevant international conventions and decisions as well as internationally agreed development goals and United Nations resolutions, in consultation with Member States, relevant international organizations and other stakeholders;

12. *Recalls* that the report of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on standards for the implementation of the right to development[462] was prepared without prejudice to the ongoing discussions on the criteria and operational subcriteria, in the context of which the Working Group completed its second reading at its seventeenth session and decided on further action, with the objective of elaborating a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session[463] that are congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

14. *Also stresses* that it is important that the Chair-Rapporteur and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(*a*) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(*b*) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development[458] and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(*c*) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also while urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

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[462] A/HRC/WG.2/17/2.

[463] See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

(*d*) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority;

(*e*) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

15. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to continue to consider how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

16. *Welcomes* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 33/14 of 29 September 2016,[464] to appoint, for a period of three years, a Special Rapporteur on the right to development, whose mandate should add value to the work of the Working Group, while avoiding any duplication, and urges Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of his or her mandate;

17. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in those outcome documents;

18. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, a lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

19. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

20. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with one another to that end;

21. *Expresses concern* about the increasing cases of human rights violations and abuses by some transnational corporations and other business enterprises, underlines the need to ensure that appropriate protection, justice and remedies are provided to the victims of human rights violations and abuses resulting from their activities, and underscores the fact that these entities must contribute to the means of implementation for the realization of the right to development;

22. *Reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

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[464] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

23. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and international levels;

24. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable, recognizes that globalization has brought disparities between and within countries and that issues such as trade and trade liberalization, the transfer of technology, infrastructure development and market access should be managed effectively in order to mitigate the challenges of poverty and underdevelopment and to make the right to development a reality for everyone;

25. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

26. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development due to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the ongoing international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and have adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries;

27. *Encourages* Member States to give particular consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

28. *Recalls* the commitment in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[illegible] of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, notes with concern that some developing countries have failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard invites Member States and the international community to take proactive measures aimed at creating a conducive environment to contribute to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular increasing international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

29. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to the least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

30. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in the sectors of agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

31. *Calls once again for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization, the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns, a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, the avoidance of new forms of protectionism, and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

32. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development, stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

33. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent,

responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

34. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between the education of women and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

35. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

36. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2016 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV and AIDS,[667] and underscores the importance of enhanced international cooperation to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, including the target of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030, implement universal access to health-care services and address health challenges;

37. *Also recalls* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, adopted on 19 September 2011,[668] with its particular focus on development and other challenges and social and economic impacts, particularly for developing countries;

38. *Further recalls* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want";[669]

39. *Recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[670] which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and, while recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development, stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts in the realization of the right to development;

40. *Stresses its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007, and in this regard recalls the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in 2014;

41. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

42. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to take concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[671] particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

43. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by

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[667] Resolution 70/266, annex.

[668] Resolution 66/2, annex.

[669] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[670] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[671] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

ensuring the effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office with the necessary resources;

44. *Reaffirms* the request to the High Commissioner, in mainstreaming the right to development, to effectively undertake activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions and to reflect those activities in detail in his next report to the Human Rights Council;

45. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

47. *Encourages* relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to contribute further to the work of the Working Group and to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the fulfilment of his mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development;

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group to present an oral report and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/193

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[477] by a recorded vote of 133 to 54, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: None

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[477] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Russian Federation.

71/193. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 70/151 of 17 December 2015, and Human Rights Council decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011[471] and resolutions 24/14 of 27 September 2013,[472] 27/21 of 26 September 2014[473] and 30/2 of 1 October 2015,[474] as well as previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Taking note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/151[475] and to Human Rights Council resolutions 27/21 and 30/2,[476] and recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997[477] and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,[478]

Stressing that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[479] the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and the documents adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn those measures or laws and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them, urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

Recalling also that, at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights[480] and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[481] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[482] the Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All and the Quito implementation plan for the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on 20 October 2016,[483] and in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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[471] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. III.

[472] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[473] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[474] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[475] A/71/287.

[476] A/HRC/33/48.

[477] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[478] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[479] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I.

[480] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[481] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries,

Expressing concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Expressing grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented, with all their negative implications for the social humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Reaffirming that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[484]

Recalling article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[485] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[485] which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

Noting the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature, with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[486] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

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[482] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[483] See resolution 71/256, annex.

[484] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[485] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[486] Resolution 217 A (III).

2. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of sustainable economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Condemns* the inclusion of Member States in unilateral lists under false pretexts, which are contrary to international law and the Charter, including false allegations of terrorism sponsorship, considering such lists as instruments for political or economic pressure against Member States, particularly developing countries;

4. *Urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and education and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

5. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

6. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures, with all their extraterritorial effects, as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

7. *Expresses grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

9. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

10. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

11. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

12. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment and extraterritorial application of national laws that are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

13. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging his functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in his annual report to the General Assembly;

14. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[484] and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of national laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

15. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[487] States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

16. *Reaffirms* paragraph 30 of the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[488] in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

17. *Recalls* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 27/21,[473] to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, and welcomes the work done in delivering his mandate;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and also requests them, in discharging their functions in relation to the promotion and protection of human rights, to pay due attention and to give urgent consideration to the present resolution;

19. *Recalls* that the Human Rights Council took note of the research-based progress report of its Advisory Committee containing recommendations on mechanisms to assess the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights and to promote accountability;[489]

20. *Takes note* of the contribution of the first biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights organized by the Human Rights Council in 2015 to increase awareness of the negative impact that unilateral coercive measures have on the enjoyment of human rights in the targeted and non-targeted countries, and invites the Council to follow up on the discussion at the upcoming second biennial panel in 2017;

21. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue paying attention and explore ways to address the negative impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures;

22. *Reiterates its support* for the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

23. *Takes note with interest* of the proposals contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights,[475] and requests the Special Rapporteur to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session more information on the process regarding the discussions of his proposals at the Human Right Council;

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[487] A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[488] Resolution 70/1.

[489] A/HRC/28/74.

24. *Reaffirms* the request of the Human Rights Council that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize a workshop on the impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights by the affected populations, in particular their socioeconomic impact on women and children, in the States targeted;

25. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

26. *Invites* Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

27. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its seventy-second session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/194

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[490]

71/194. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[491] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the General Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling also its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000,[492] its resolution 70/153 of 17 December 2015, Human Rights Council resolution 32/6 of 30 June 2016[493] and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recalling further the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[494] and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

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[490] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador, Paraguay and Russian Federation.

[491] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[492] Resolution 55/2.

[493] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[494] Resolution 66/3.

Recognizing also that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Underlining that cooperation is not just a matter of relations of good-neighbourliness, coexistence or reciprocity, but rather of a willingness to look beyond mutual interests in order to advance the general interest,

Stressing the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of all in every country, including, in particular, in developing countries,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[495]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

4. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, cooperation and genuine dialogue, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universal periodic review as a mechanism based on cooperation and constructive dialogue with the objective of, inter alia, improving the situation of human rights on the ground and promoting the fulfilment of the human rights obligations and commitments undertaken by States;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need for a cooperative approach on the part of all stakeholders to resolving human rights issues in international forums;

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[495] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

10. *Further emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts and in increasing the capacities of Member States in the field of human rights through, inter alia, the enhancement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

11. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

12. *Urges* States to take measures necessary to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation aimed at addressing the adverse impact of consecutive and compounded global crises, such as financial and economic crises, food crises, climate change and natural disasters, on the full enjoyment of human rights;

13. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as on obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and genuine dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/195

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[496]

71/195. Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitment made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief,

Welcoming Human Rights Council resolutions 16/18 of 24 March 2011,[497] 19/25 of 23 March 2012,[498] 22/31 of 22 March 2013,[499] 28/29 of 27 March 2015[500] and 31/26 of 24 March 2016[501] and General Assembly resolutions 67/178 of 20 December 2012, 68/169 of 18 December 2013, 69/174 of 18 December 2014 and 70/157 of 17 December 2015,

Reaffirming the obligation of States to prohibit discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief and to implement measures to guarantee the equal and effective protection of the law,

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[496] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Eritrea, Ghana, Japan, Liberia, New Zealand, Swaziland, Thailand and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[497] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[498] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[499] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[500] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[501] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Reaffirming further that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[402] provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, and to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

Reaffirming the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Expressing deep concern at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance and respect for diversity,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Condemning the criminal acts committed by terrorist and extremist groups and movements against persons based on their religion or belief, and deeply regretting attempts to link such acts to any one specific religion or belief,

Reaffirming that violence can never be an acceptable response to acts of intolerance on the basis of religion or belief,

Recalling its adoption of resolutions 69/140 of 15 December 2014 and 70/19 of 3 December 2015 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, 69/312 of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and 67/104 of 17 December 2012, in which the General Assembly proclaimed the period 2013–2022 as the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures,

Deeply concerned about continuing incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on their religion or belief in all regions of the world,

Deploring any advocacy of discrimination or violence on the basis of religion or belief,

Strongly deploring all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

Strongly deploring also all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines, which are in violation of international law, in particular human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

Deeply concerned about the prevalence of impunity in some instances, and the lack of accountability in some cases, in addressing violence against persons on the basis of religion or belief in public and private spheres, and stressing the importance of making the necessary efforts to raise awareness to address the spread of hate speech against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

Concerned about actions that wilfully exploit tensions or target individuals on the basis of their religion or belief, in particular actions that seek to prevent their exercise and full enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief,

Expressing deep concern at the instances of intolerance and discrimination and acts of violence occurring in the world, including cases motivated by discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in addition to the negative projection of the followers of religions and the enforcement of measures that specifically discriminate against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

Expressing concern at the growing manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief, which can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations and which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

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[402] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recognizing the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Underlining the fact that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

Underlining also the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Recognizing that working together to enhance the implementation of existing legal regimes that protect individuals against discrimination and hate crimes, increasing interreligious, interfaith and intercultural efforts and expanding human rights education are important first steps in combating incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

Recalling its resolution 70/109, entitled "A world against violence and violent extremism", adopted by consensus on 10 December 2015, welcoming the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting intercultural dialogue, the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the work of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures in Alexandria, Egypt, and the work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and recalling also its resolution 65/5 of 20 October 2010 on World Interfaith Harmony Week, proposed by King Abdullah II of Jordan,

Welcoming, in this regard, all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief, noting the initiative of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide on the role of religious leaders in preventing incitement that could lead to atrocity crimes and the declaration of its forum held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief, the announcement on 6 October 2016 of the establishment by the United Arab Emirates of the International Institute for Tolerance for promoting the value of tolerance among nations, the Amman Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security adopted on 22 August 2015, as well as the fifth Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Astana on 10 and 11 June 2015, and taking note of the initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its outcome document, the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,[503]

Taking note with appreciation of the continuation of the organization of workshops and meetings within the framework of the Istanbul Process and the promotion of effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, in particular the recent sixth implementation meeting of the Process, hosted by Singapore, on 20 and 21 July 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[504]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the continued serious instances of derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, as well as programmes and agendas pursued by

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[503] A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

[504] A/71/369.

extremist individuals, organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating negative stereotypes about religious groups, in particular when condoned by Governments;

3. *Expresses concern* that the number of incidents of religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative stereotyping of individuals on the basis of religion or belief, continues to rise around the world, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, condemns, in this context, any advocacy of religious hatred against individuals that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urges States to take effective measures, as set forth in the present resolution and consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents;

4. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

5. *Recognizes* that the open public debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national and international levels, can be among the best protections against religious intolerance and can play a positive role in strengthening democracy and combating religious hatred, and expresses its conviction that a continuing dialogue on these issues can help to overcome existing misperceptions;

6. *Also recognizes* the strong need for global awareness about the possible serious implications of incitement to discrimination and violence, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to make renewed efforts to develop educational systems that promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms that enhance tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, which is fundamental to promoting tolerant, peaceful and harmonious multicultural societies;

7. *Calls upon* all States to take the following actions, as called for by the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to foster a domestic environment of religious tolerance, peace and respect by:

(*a*) Encouraging the creation of collaborative networks to build mutual understanding, promoting dialogue and inspiring constructive action towards shared policy goals and the pursuit of tangible outcomes, such as servicing projects in the fields of education, health, conflict prevention, employment, integration and media education;

(*b*) Creating an appropriate mechanism within Governments to, inter alia, identify and address potential areas of tension between members of different religious communities and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;

(*c*) Encouraging the training of government officials in effective outreach strategies;

(*d*) Encouraging the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of discrimination and developing strategies to counter those causes;

(*e*) Speaking out against intolerance, including advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

(*f*) Adopting measures to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief;

(*g*) Understanding the need to combat denigration and the negative religious stereotyping of persons, as well as incitement to religious hatred, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through, inter alia, education and awareness-raising;

(*h*) Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To take effective measures to ensure that public functionaries, in the conduct of their public duties, do not discriminate against an individual on the basis of religion or belief;

(*b*) To foster religious freedom and pluralism by promoting the ability of members of all religious communities to manifest their religion and to contribute openly and on an equal footing to society;

(*c*) To encourage the representation and meaningful participation of individuals, irrespective of their religion or belief, in all sectors of society;

(*d*) To make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood to be the invidious use of religion as a criterion in conducting questioning, searches and other investigative law enforcement procedures;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to adopt measures and policies to promote full respect for and protection of places of worship and religious sites, cemeteries and shrines and to take protective measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism or destruction;

10. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs;

11. *Encourages* all States to consider providing updates on efforts made in this regard as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include those updates in his reports to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report that includes information provided by the High Commissioner on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, as set forth in the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/196

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[505]

71/196. Freedom of religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[506] article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[507] and other relevant human rights provisions,

Recalling also its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling further its previous resolutions on freedom of religion or belief and on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including resolution 70/158 of 17 December 2015 and Human Rights Council resolution 31/16 of 23 March 2016,[508]

Recognizing the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of freedom of religion or belief,

Noting the conclusions and recommendations of the expert workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and contained in the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,[illegible]

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[505] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[506] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[507] Resolution 217 A (III).

[508] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Considering that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief, as a universal human right, should be fully respected and guaranteed,

Seriously concerned at continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals, including against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities around the world, and at the increasing number and intensity of such incidents, which are often of a criminal nature and may have international characteristics,

Deeply concerned at the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, as well as at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,

Recalling that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

Concerned that official authorities sometimes tolerate or encourage acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities,

Concerned also at the increasing number of laws and regulations that limit the freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and at the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

Convinced of the need to urgently address the rapid rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the human rights of individuals, in particular persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many individuals, particularly women and children, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices, and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

Seriously concerned about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments, and including also those carried out in connection with incitement to national, racial or religious hatred,

Emphasizing that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies, the media and civil society as a whole have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

Underlining the importance of education, including human rights education, in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Stresses* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's own choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, including the right to change one's religion or belief;

[illegible] A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

2. *Emphasizes* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religion or belief and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Strongly condemns* violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief as well as all forms of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief;

4. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs;

5. *Reaffirms* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion or belief as this may have adverse consequences for the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

6. *Strongly condemns* violence and acts of terrorism, which are increasing in number and intensity, targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief, and underlines the importance of a comprehensive and inclusive community-based preventive approach, involving a wide set of actors, including civil society and religious communities;

7. *Recalls* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence, intimidation and harassment against a person or a group of persons belonging to a religious minority, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

8. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;

9. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of hatred based on religion or belief that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

10. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's religion or belief and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

11. *Recognizes with concern* the challenges that persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as well as women, are facing as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

12. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

13. *Expresses deep concern* at continued obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief as well as the increasing number of instances of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief, including:

(*a*) Acts of violence and intolerance directed against individuals based on their religion or belief, including religious persons and persons belonging to religious minorities and other communities in various parts of the world;

(*b*) The rise of religious extremism in various parts of the world that affects the human rights of individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities;

(c) Incidents of hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence based on religion or belief, which may be associated with or manifested by the derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief;

(d) Attacks on or destruction of religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as they have more than material significance for the dignity and lives of persons holding spiritual or religious beliefs;

(e) Instances, both in law and practice, that constitute violations of the human right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[illegible] as well as other international instruments;

(f) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction;

14. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:

(a) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction by, inter alia, providing access to justice, including by facilitating legal assistance and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief or the right to freely choose and practise one's religion or belief is violated, paying particular attention to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(b) To implement all accepted universal periodic review recommendations related to the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief;

(c) To ensure that no one within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty and security of person because of religion or belief, to provide adequate protection to persons at risk of violent attack on the grounds of their religion or belief, to ensure that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(d) To end violations of the human rights of women and girls and to devote particular attention to appropriate measures modifying or abolishing existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that discriminate against them, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to foster practical ways to ensure gender equality;

(e) To ensure that existing legislation is not implemented in a discriminatory manner or does not result in discrimination based on religion or belief, that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits and that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination based on religion or belief;

(f) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(g) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(h) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief, their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(i) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(j) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that they receive all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training on respect for freedom of religion or belief;

(*k*) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(*l*) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of the diversity of religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(*m*) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

15. *Welcomes and encourages* initiatives by the media to promote tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief, and stresses the importance of unhindered participation in the media and in public discourse for all persons, regardless of their religion or belief;

16. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the Alliance of Civilizations initiative and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

17. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[510] and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution and in promoting religious tolerance;

18. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief in as many different languages as possible, and promote its implementation;

19. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief on the broad range of violations of freedom of religion or belief, their root causes and variables;[511]

20. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to his requests to visit their countries and to provide all information and follow-up necessary for the effective fulfilment of his mandate;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge his mandate;

22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

23. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[510] Resolution 36/55.

[511] See A/71/269.

RESOLUTION 71/197

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[512] by a recorded vote of 135 to 53, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Greece

71/197. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing, in particular, the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[513] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[514] the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[515] the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference adopted on 24 April 2009,[516] and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, entitled "United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", of 22 September 2011,[517]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[518] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[518]

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[512] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

[513] Resolution 217 A (III).

[514] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[515] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[516] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

[517] Resolution 66/3.

[518] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[519] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[520] and twenty-fourth[521] special sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, respectively,

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Recalling further its resolutions 66/154 of 19 December 2011, 67/165 of 20 December 2012, 68/168 of 18 December 2013 and 69/173 of 18 December 2014,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/17 of 14 April 2005 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,[522]

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 21/5 of 27 September 2012[523] on the contribution of the United Nations system as a whole to the advancement of the business and human rights agenda and the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[524] 26/9 of 26 June 2014[525] on the elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights and 26/22 of 27 June 2014[525] on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments made in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields, and reaffirming in particular the commitment contained in paragraphs 19 and 47 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome[526] to promote fair globalization and the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Realizing the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware of the risk that globalization poses more of a threat to cultural diversity if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

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[519] Resolution 55/2.

[520] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[521] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[522] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[523] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[524] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[525] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[526] Resolution 60/1.

Recognizing also that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Realizing the need to consider the challenges and opportunities linked to globalization with a view to addressing such challenges and building on possible opportunities in order to achieve the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Emphasizing the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and the need to protect the human rights of migrants, particularly at a time when migration flows have increased in the globalized economy,

Expressing grave concern at the negative impact of international financial turmoil on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly in the light of the continuing global financial and economic crisis, which may have an adverse impact on the ability of Member States to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that developing countries are in a more vulnerable situation when facing such impact and that regional economic cooperation and development strategies and programmes can play a role in mitigating such impact,

Expressing deep concern at the negative impact of the continuing global food and energy crises and climate change challenges on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights for all,

Recognizing that globalization should be guided by the fundamental principles that underpin the corpus of human rights, such as equity, participation, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, inclusivity and equality at both the national and the international levels, respect for diversity, tolerance and international cooperation and solidarity,

Emphasizing that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full realization and effective enjoyment of human rights and that its immediate alleviation and eventual elimination must remain a high priority for the international community,

Acknowledging that there is greater acceptance that the increasing debt burden faced by the most indebted developing countries is unsustainable and constitutes one of the principal obstacles to achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication and that, for many developing countries, excessive debt servicing has severely constrained their capacity to promote social development and to provide basic services to realize economic, social and cultural rights,

Strongly reiterating the determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the sustainable development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, which aim to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication,

Gravely concerned at the inadequacy of measures to narrow the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, which has contributed to, inter alia, deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Emphasizing that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect all human rights,

Emphasizing also that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[527]

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[527] Resolution 70/1.

2. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, through its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

3. *Emphasizes* that development should be at the centre of the international economic agenda and that coherence between national development strategies and international obligations and commitments is imperative for an enabling environment for development and an inclusive and equitable globalization;

4. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

5. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global levels that is conducive to development and to the eradication of poverty by, inter alia, promoting good governance within each country and at the international level, eliminating protectionism, enhancing transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and committing to an open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

6. *Recognizes* the impacts that the global financial and economic crisis is still having on the ability of countries, particularly developing countries, to mobilize resources for development and to address the impact of this crisis, and in this context calls upon all States and the international community to alleviate, in an inclusive and development-oriented manner, any negative impacts of this crisis on the realization and the effective enjoyment of all human rights;

7. *Also recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[528] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

9. *Reaffirms* the international commitment to eliminating hunger and to securing food for all, today and tomorrow, and reiterates that the relevant United Nations organizations should be assured the resources needed to expand and enhance their food assistance and support social safety net programmes designed to address hunger and malnutrition, when appropriate, through the use of local or regional purchase;

10. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote inclusive, equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

11. *Recognizes* that the responsible operations of transnational corporations and other business enterprises can contribute to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular economic, social and cultural rights;

12. *Also recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

13. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system to strengthen and broaden the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

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[528] E/CN.4/2002/54.

14. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

15. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that promotes and protects human rights while ensuring respect for the cultural diversity of all;

16. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[529] and requests him to continue to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a substantive report on the subject based on those views, including recommendations on ways to address the impact of globalization on the full enjoyment of all human rights.

RESOLUTION 71/198

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137),[530] by a recorded vote of 125 to 2, with 56 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against: Angola, Chad

Abstaining: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tonga, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

71/198. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[531] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[532] and other relevant human rights conventions,

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[529] A/71/271.

[530] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[531] Resolution 217 A (III).

[532] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Reaffirming the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as set out in Council resolution 26/12 of 26 June 2014,[533]

Welcoming the universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[534] which, alongside international human rights law, provide important legal frameworks of accountability in relation to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions during armed conflict,

Recalling all its resolutions on the subject of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions as well as the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the subject, and emphasizing the importance of their full and effective implementation,

Recognizing the positive role that regional human rights systems can play in the global protection against arbitrary deprivation of life,

Acknowledging the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[535] and its implementation for the promotion and protection of the enjoyment by all persons of human rights, gender equality, access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Noting with deep concern that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,

Noting that enforced disappearances can end up in extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, recalling the importance in this regard of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[536] and calling upon all States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Acknowledging that international human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with deep concern the growing number of civilians and persons hors de combat killed in situations of armed conflict and internal strife, and that women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, as recognized in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security and subsequent resolutions on the matter,

Noting with deep concern also the continuing instances of the arbitrary deprivation of life, resulting from, inter alia, the imposition and implementation of capital punishment when carried out in a manner that violates international law,

Recalling the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)[537] and the adoption of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[538]

Deeply concerned about acts that can amount to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions committed against persons exercising their rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression in all regions of the world,

Deeply concerned also about killings committed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations, which may amount to abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law,

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[533] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[534] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[535] Resolution 70/1.

[536] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[537] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[538] Resolution 70/175, annex.

Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[539] and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes, as set out by the General Assembly in its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 63/308 of 14 September 2009,

Convinced of the need for effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent flagrant violations of international human rights law, particularly the right to life, as well as of international humanitarian law,

1. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to occur throughout the world;

2. *Demands* that all States ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions is brought to an end and that they take effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms and manifestations;

3. *Reiterates* that all States must conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, grant adequate compensation within a reasonable time to the victims or their families and adopt all necessary measures, including legal and judicial measures, also bearing in mind gender equality in access to justice, to put an end to impunity and prevent the further occurrence of such executions, as recommended in the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extralegal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,[540] fully consistent with their obligations under international law;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to pay greater attention to the work of national-level commissions of inquiry into extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, with a view to ensuring the effective contribution of these commissions to accountability and to combating impunity;

5. *Calls upon* all States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to comply with their obligations under the relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, and also calls upon States which retain the death penalty to pay particular regard to the provisions contained in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[532] and articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[541] bearing in mind the safeguards and guarantees set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 and taking into account the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in his reports to the Council and the General Assembly, including the report submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session,[542] regarding the need to respect all safeguards and restrictions, including limitation to the most serious crimes, stringent respect of due process and fair trial safeguards and the right to seek pardon or commutation of sentence;

6. *Urges* all States:

(*a*) To take all measures required by international human rights law and international humanitarian law to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during detention, arrest, public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest, public emergencies or armed conflicts and to ensure that the police, law enforcement agents, armed forces and other agents acting on behalf of or with the consent or acquiescence of the State act with restraint and in conformity with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the principles of proportionality and necessity, and in this regard to ensure that police and law enforcement officials are guided by the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[543] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;[544]

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[539] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[540] Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, annex.

[541] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[542] A/67/275.

(*b*) To ensure the effective protection of the right to life of all persons, to conduct, when required by obligations under international law, prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into all killings, including those targeted at specific groups of persons, such as racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim, killings of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities or because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, killings of persons affected by terrorism or hostage-taking or living under foreign occupation, killings of refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants, street children or members of indigenous communities, killings of persons for reasons related to their activities as human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists or demonstrators, killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour and killings committed for discriminatory reasons on any basis, to bring those responsible to justice before a competent, independent and impartial judiciary at the national or, where appropriate, international level and to ensure that such killings, including those committed by security forces, police and law enforcement agents, paramilitary groups or private forces, are neither condoned nor sanctioned by State officials or personnel;

7. *Affirms* the obligation of States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to protect the lives of all persons deprived of their liberty in all circumstances and to investigate and respond to deaths in custody;

8. *Encourages* States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the United Nations and of regional human rights systems, to review, where necessary, their domestic laws and practices with regard to the use of force in law enforcement in order to ensure that these laws and practices are in conformity with their international obligations and commitments;

9. *Also encourages* States to accelerate the work on fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[535] bearing in mind the importance of the full enjoyment of human rights and access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, as well as the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective;

10. *Urges* all States to ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are treated humanely and with full respect for international law and that their treatment, including judicial guarantees and conditions, conforms to, as appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[538] as well as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)[537] and, where applicable, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[534] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[545] as well as other pertinent international instruments;

11. *Welcomes* the International Criminal Court as an important contribution to ending impunity concerning extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and, noting the growing awareness of the Court worldwide, calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate with the Court to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences, also welcomes the fact that 124 States have already ratified or acceded to and 139 States have signed the Rome Statute of the Court,[539] and calls upon all those States that have not ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court[546] to give serious consideration to doing so;

12. *Acknowledges* the importance of ensuring the protection of witnesses for the prosecution of those suspected of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, urges States to intensify efforts to establish and implement effective witness protection programmes or other measures, and in this regard encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop practical tools designed to encourage and facilitate greater attention to the protection of witnesses;

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[543] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[544] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

[545] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[546] Ibid., vol. 2271, No. 40446.

13. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers and government officials in international humanitarian and human rights law connected with their work and to include a gender and child rights perspective in such training, and appeals to the international community and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to support endeavours to that end;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur to the General Assembly[547] and the Human Rights Council, and invites States to take due consideration of the recommendations contained therein;

15. *Commends* the important role that the Special Rapporteur plays towards the elimination of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue, within his or her mandate, to collect information, including data disaggregated by sex, from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before him or her, to follow up on communications and country visits and to seek the views and comments of Governments and to reflect them, as appropriate, in his or her reports;

16. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Special Rapporteur in identifying cases where extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions could amount to genocide and crimes against humanity or war crimes, and urges the Special Rapporteur to collaborate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, as appropriate, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide in addressing situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that are of particularly serious concern or in which early action might prevent further deterioration;

17. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue his or her efforts in that regard;

18. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have not done so, to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur so that his or her mandate can be carried out effectively, including by favourably and rapidly responding to requests for visits, mindful that country visits are one of the essential tools for the fulfilment of his or her mandate, and by responding in a timely manner to communications and other requests transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States that have received the Special Rapporteur, asks them to examine his recommendations carefully, invites them to inform the Special Rapporteur of the actions taken on those recommendations, and requests other States to cooperate in a similar way;

20. *Once again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standards of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources to enable him or her to carry out his or her mandate effectively, including through country visits;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the High Commissioner and in conformity with the mandate of the High Commissioner, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in international humanitarian and human rights law, including in provisions related to gender equality, form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

23. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second and seventy-third sessions, a report on the situation worldwide with regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and his or her recommendations for more effective action to combat this phenomenon;

24. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-third session.

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[547] See A/70/304 and A/71/372.

RESOLUTION 71/199

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[548]

71/199. The right to privacy in the digital age

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[549] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[550] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[550]

Reaffirming further the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[551]

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 68/167 of 18 December 2013 and 69/166 of 18 December 2014, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 28/16 of 26 March 2015 on the right to privacy in the digital age[552] and 32/13 of 1 July 2016 on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the internet,[553] and welcoming the appointment of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy,

Welcoming the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[554]

Taking note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy[555] and the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression,[556]

Welcoming the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age, noting with interest its report thereon,[557] and recalling the panel discussion on the right to privacy in the digital age held during the twenty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council,

Noting that the rapid pace of technological development enables individuals all over the world to use new information and communications technologies and at the same time enhances the capacity of governments, companies and individuals to undertake surveillance, interception and data collection, which may violate or abuse human rights, in particular the right to privacy, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and is therefore an issue of increasing concern,

Noting also that violations and abuses of the right to privacy in the digital age may affect all individuals, including with particular effects on women, as well as children and those who are vulnerable or marginalized,

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[548] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[549] Resolution 217 A (III).

[550] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[551] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[552] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[553] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[554] Resolution 70/125.

[555] A/HRC/31/64 and A/71/368.

[556] A/HRC/32/38 and A/71/373.

[557] A/HRC/27/37.

Reaffirming the human right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, and recognizing that the exercise of the right to privacy is important for the realization of the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and is one of the foundations of a democratic society,

Noting with appreciation general comment No. 16 of the Human Rights Committee on article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the right to respect of privacy, family, home and correspondence, and protection of honour and reputation,[178] while also noting the vast technological leaps that have taken place since its adoption and the need to discuss the right to privacy in view of the challenges of the digital age,

Recognizing the need to further discuss and analyse, based on international human rights law, issues relating to the promotion and protection of the right to privacy in the digital age, procedural safeguards, effective domestic oversight and remedies, the impact of surveillance on the right to privacy and other human rights, as well as the need to examine the principles of non-arbitrariness and lawfulness, and the relevance of necessity and proportionality assessments in relation to surveillance practices,

Noting the holding of the Global Multi-stakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance (NETmundial) and the multi-stakeholder discussions that take place annually in the Internet Governance Forum, which is a multi-stakeholder forum for discussions of Internet governance issues and whose mandate was extended by the General Assembly in 2015 for another 10 years,[179] and recognizing that effectively addressing the challenges relating to the right to privacy in the context of modern communications technology requires an ongoing, concerted multi-stakeholder engagement,

Affirming that this engagement is greatly facilitated by informal dialogues about the right to privacy among all relevant stakeholders,

Recognizing that the discussion on the right to privacy should be based upon existing international and domestic legal obligations, including international human rights law, as well as relevant commitments, and should not open the path for undue interference with an individual's human rights,

Stressing the importance of full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including the fundamental importance of access to information and democratic participation,

Recalling that the right to privacy is important for the exercise of freedom of expression, including the right to seek, receive and impart information, and contributes to the development of an individual's ability to participate in political, economic, social and cultural life and that digital technology has a considerable impact on the enjoyment of these rights,

Noting that, while metadata can provide benefits, certain types of metadata, when aggregated, can reveal personal information and can give an insight into an individual's behaviour, social relationships, private preferences and identity,

Expressing concern that individuals often do not provide their free, explicit and informed consent to the sale or multiple resale of their personal data, as the collecting, processing and sharing of personal data, including sensitive data, have increased significantly in the digital age,

Emphasizing that unlawful or arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data, as highly intrusive acts, violate the right to privacy, can interfere with the right to freedom of expression and may contradict the tenets of a democratic society, including when undertaken on a mass scale,

Recognizing that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy,

Noting in particular that surveillance of digital communications must be consistent with international human rights obligations and must be conducted on the basis of a legal framework, which must be publicly accessible, clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory, and that any interference with the right to privacy must not be arbitrary or unlawful, bearing in mind what is reasonable to the pursuance of legitimate aims, and recalling that States that are parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights must undertake the necessary steps to adopt laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized in the Covenant,

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[178] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/43/40), annex VI.

Emphasizing that States must respect international human rights obligations regarding the right to privacy when they intercept digital communications of individuals and/or collect personal data and when they require disclosure of personal data from third parties, including private companies,

Recognizing the global and open nature of the Internet as a driving force in accelerating progress towards development in its various forms, including in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,[illegible]

Noting that general comment No. 16 recommends that States take effective measures to prevent the unlawful retention, processing and use of personal data stored by public authorities and business enterprises,

Noting also that the increasing capabilities of business enterprises to collect, process and use personal data can pose a risk to the enjoyment of the right to privacy in the digital age,

Welcoming measures taken by business enterprises, on a voluntary basis, to provide transparency to their users about their policies regarding requests by State authorities for access to user data and information,

Recalling that business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights, applicable laws, international principles and standards,

Deeply concerned at the negative impact that surveillance and/or interception of communications, including extraterritorial surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the collection of personal data, in particular when carried out on a mass scale, may have on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms frequently face threats and harassment and suffer insecurity as well as unlawful or arbitrary interference with their right to privacy as a result of their activities,

Noting that, while concerns about public security may justify the gathering and protection of certain sensitive information, States must ensure full compliance with their obligations under international human rights law,

Noting also, in that respect, that the prevention and suppression of terrorism is a public interest of great importance, while reaffirming that States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism are in compliance with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Recognizing that an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment is important to the realization of the right to privacy in the digital age,

1. *Reaffirms* the right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[illegible] and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[illegible]

2. *Recognizes* the global and open nature of the Internet and the rapid advancement in information and communications technologies as a driving force in accelerating progress towards development in its various forms, including in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;[illegible]

3. *Affirms* that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy;

4. *Encourages* all States to promote an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment based on respect for international law, including the obligations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and human rights instruments;

[illegible] See resolution 70/1.

5. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To respect and protect the right to privacy, including in the context of digital communications;

(*b*) To take measures to put an end to violations of the right to privacy and to create the conditions to prevent such violations, including by ensuring that relevant national legislation complies with their obligations under international human rights law;

(*c*) To review their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, interception and collection, with a view to upholding the right to privacy by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law;

(*d*) To establish or maintain existing independent, effective, adequately resourced and impartial judicial, administrative and/or parliamentary domestic oversight mechanisms capable of ensuring transparency, as appropriate, and accountability for State surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data;

(*e*) To provide individuals whose right to privacy has been violated by unlawful or arbitrary surveillance with access to an effective remedy, consistent with international human rights obligations;

(*f*) To develop or maintain and implement adequate legislation, with effective sanctions and remedies, that protects individuals against violations and abuses of the right to privacy, namely through the unlawful and arbitrary collection, processing, retention or use of personal data by individuals, governments, business enterprises and private organizations;

(*g*) To further develop or maintain, in this regard, preventive measures and remedies for violations and abuses regarding the right to privacy in the digital age that may affect all individuals, including where there are particular effects for women, as well as children and those vulnerable and marginalized;

(*h*) To promote quality education and lifelong education opportunities for all to foster, inter alia, digital literacy and the technical skills required to effectively protect their privacy;

(*i*) To refrain from requiring business enterprises to take steps that interfere with the right to privacy in an arbitrary or unlawful way;

(*j*) To consider appropriate measures that would enable business enterprises to adopt adequate voluntary transparency measures with regard to requests by State authorities for access to private user data and information;

(*k*) To develop or maintain legislation, preventive measures and remedies addressing harm from the sale or multiple resale or other corporate sharing of personal data without the individual's free, explicit and informed consent;

6. *Calls upon* business enterprises:

(*a*) To meet their responsibility to respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[560] including the right to privacy in the digital age;

(*b*) To inform users about the collection, use, sharing and retention of their data that may affect their right to privacy and to establish transparency policies, as appropriate;

7. *Encourages* business enterprises to work towards enabling secure communications and the protection of individual users against arbitrary or unlawful interference with their privacy, including by developing technical solutions;

8. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to participate in informal dialogues about the right to privacy, and welcomes the contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy to this process;

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[560] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

9. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to remain actively seized of the debate, with the purpose of identifying and clarifying principles, standards and best practices regarding the promotion and protection of the right to privacy, and to consider holding an expert workshop as a contribution for a future report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on this matter;

10. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-third session.

RESOLUTION 71/200

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[561]

71/200. The role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[562]

Recalling its resolutions 65/207 of 21 December 2010, 67/163 of 20 December 2012 and 69/168 of 18 December 2014 on the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General,[563] in which he refers the General Assembly to his report on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights submitted to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-third session, in September 2016;[564]

2. *Recalls* paragraph 1 of resolution 69/168, in which it regretted that no specific report on the implementation of resolution 67/163 had been prepared;

3. *Regrets* that, once again, the Secretariat did not provide a specific report on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, despite the request in resolution 69/168, and that the notes by the Secretary-General[565] referring to the reports submitted to the Human Rights Council did not fully correspond to the specific requests by the Assembly in resolutions 69/168 and 67/163;

4. *Notes*, in this regard, the functional and structural differences between national human rights institutions, on the one hand, and the Ombudsman and mediator institutions, on the other, and underlines in this regard that reports on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions should be stand-alone reports;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session the report requested in resolution 69/168;

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[561] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[562] Resolution 217 A (III).

[563] A/71/273.

[564] A/HRC/33/33.

[565] A/69/287 and A/71/273.

6. *Recalls its request* in resolution 69/168 that the Secretary-General report in particular on the obstacles encountered by States in implementing the resolution, as well as on best practices in the work and functioning of ombudsman, mediator and other human rights institutions, and requests him to seek the views of States and other relevant stakeholders, in particular ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions, as well as civil society, in this regard, and to formulate recommendations in his report on how to establish or strengthen such institutions.

RESOLUTION 71/201

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.2, para. 137)[566]

71/201. Missing persons

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[567] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[568] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[569] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[570] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[570] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[571] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[572] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[573]

Recalling the accession by 53 States to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[574] and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to it as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances,

Recalling also all previous relevant resolutions on missing persons adopted by the General Assembly, as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 69/184 of 18 December 2014 as well as all previous resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the right to the truth,

Noting with deep concern that armed conflicts are continuing in various parts of the world, often resulting in serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Noting that the issue of persons reported missing in connection with international or non-international armed conflicts, in particular those who are victims of serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, continues to have a negative impact on efforts to put an end to those conflicts and inflicts grievous suffering on the families of missing persons, and stressing in this regard the need to address the issue from, inter alia, a humanitarian and rule of law perspective,

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[566] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[567] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[568] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[569] Resolution 217 A (III).

[570] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[571] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[572] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[573] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[574] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

Considering that the problem of missing persons may raise questions of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as appropriate,

Bearing in mind that cases of missing persons involve conduct that may constitute criminal offences, and stressing the importance of ending impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law with respect to missing persons,

Cognizant that States that are parties to an armed conflict have a responsibility for countering the phenomenon of missing persons, taking all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing, including, when appropriate, effectively investigating the conditions relating to persons going missing and determining the fate of missing persons, and for recognizing their accountability as regards implementing the relevant mechanisms, policies and laws,

Bearing in mind the effective search for and identification of missing persons using forensic sciences, and recognizing that great technological progress has been made in this field, including DNA forensic analysis, which can significantly assist efforts to identify missing persons and to investigate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Recognizing that the establishment and effective work of competent national institutions can play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict,

Recognizing also the importance of addressing the legal situation of missing persons in connection with armed conflict and supporting their family members through national policies that include a gender perspective, as appropriate,

Noting, in this regard, the progress made by coordination mechanisms, established in different parts of the world, aiming at exchanging information and identifying missing persons, which have contributed to informing families of the fate and whereabouts of their missing relatives,

Recognizing that respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law can reduce the number of cases of missing persons in armed conflict,

Stressing the importance of measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, which may include enacting national legislation, providing appropriate training for armed forces, producing and providing proper means of identification, the establishment of information bureaux, grave registration services and registers of deaths and ensuring accountability in cases of missing persons,

Noting the signing of the Agreement on the Status and Functions of the International Commission on Missing Persons, to establish the Commission as an international organization,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing international and regional efforts to address the question of missing persons and the initiatives undertaken by international and regional organizations in this field,

1. *Urges* States to strictly observe and to respect and ensure respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[567] and, where applicable, in the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977;[568]

2. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with the armed conflict, to account for persons reported missing as a result of such a situation and, in cases of missing persons, to take such measures, as appropriate, as to ensure thorough, prompt, impartial and effective investigations and the prosecution of offences linked to missing persons, consistent with their obligations under international law, with a view to full accountability;

3. *Calls upon* States to take measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, including by fully implementing their obligations and commitments under relevant international law;

4. *Reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives reported missing in connection with armed conflict;

5. *Also reaffirms* that each party to an armed conflict, as soon as circumstances permit and, at the latest, from the end of active hostilities, shall search for the persons who have been reported missing by an adverse party;

6. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary measures, in a timely manner, to determine the identity and fate of persons reported missing in connection with the armed conflict and, to the greatest extent possible, to provide their family members, through appropriate channels, with all relevant information that they have on their fate, including their whereabouts or, if they are dead, the circumstances and cause of their death;

7. *Recognizes* the need for appropriate means of identification and for the collection, protection and management of data on missing persons and unidentified remains according to international and national legal norms and standards, and urges all concerned States to cooperate with each other and with other concerned actors working in this area by, inter alia, providing all relevant information related to missing persons, including on their fate and whereabouts;

8. *Requests* States to pay the utmost attention to cases of children reported missing in connection with armed conflict and to take appropriate measures to search for and identify those children and to reunite them with their families;

9. *Invites* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing the fate of missing persons and to adopt a comprehensive approach to this issue, including all such legal and practical measures and coordination mechanisms as may be necessary, based on humanitarian considerations only;

10. *Urges* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate, consistent with their international obligations, in order to effectively solve cases of missing persons, including by providing mutual assistance in terms of information-sharing, victim assistance, location and identification of missing persons and recovery, identification and return of human remains and, if possible, by identifying, mapping and preserving burial sites;

11. *Invites* States to encourage interaction between competent organizations and institutions, such as national commissions on missing persons, which play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of persons missing in connection with armed conflict and providing support to the families of the missing;

12. *Urges* States, and encourages intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take all necessary measures at the national, regional and international levels to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict and to provide appropriate assistance, as requested by the concerned States, and welcomes in this regard the establishment and efforts of commissions and working groups on missing persons;

13. *Calls upon* States, without prejudice to their efforts to determine the fate of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict, to take appropriate steps with regard to the legal situation of missing persons and the needs and accompaniment of their family members, with particular attention to the needs of women and children, in such fields as social welfare, psychological and psychosocial support, financial matters, family law and property rights;

14. *Invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to further their engagement in order to follow forensic best practices as they apply to preventing and resolving cases of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

15. *Also invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to ensure the development and proper management of archives pertaining to missing persons and unidentified remains in connection with armed conflict, as well as access to those archives in accordance with relevant applicable laws and regulations;

16. *Stresses* the need to address the issue of missing persons as a part of peace and peacebuilding processes, with reference to all justice and rule of law mechanisms, including the judiciary, parliamentary commissions and truth-finding mechanisms, on the basis of transparency, accountability and public involvement and participation;

17. *Invites* relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures, as appropriate, to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict in their forthcoming reports to the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Human Rights Council at its relevant session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including relevant recommendations;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations;

20. *Decides* to consider the question at its seventy-third session.

RESOLUTION 71/202

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.3, para. 34)[575]

71/202. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Assembly resolution 70/172 of 17 December 2015 and Council resolution 31/18 of 23 March 2016,[576] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Deeply concerned at the grave human rights situation, the pervasive culture of impunity and the lack of accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Stressing the importance of following up on the recommendations contained in the report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[577] and expressing grave concern at the detailed findings contained therein,

Welcoming the decision of the Security Council to add the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the list of issues of which the Council is seized and the holding of an open meeting of the Council on 10 December 2015, subsequent to the one held in 2014, during which the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was discussed,

Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[578] regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he has received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 70/172,[579]

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[575] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[576] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[577] A/HRC/25/63.

[578] A/71/402.

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[580] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[580] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[581] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[582] and recalling the concluding observations of the treaty bodies under the four treaties and the importance of giving them consideration,

Noting the submission, in April 2016, by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its combined second, third and fourth periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and of its combined fifth and sixth periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Noting with appreciation the signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[583] and the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[584] by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, encouraging the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to expedite the passage and enforcement of implementing legislation and the ratification of the Convention, and urging it to fully respect the rights of persons with disabilities and children,

Acknowledging the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the second universal periodic review process, noting the acceptance by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 113 out of the 268 recommendations contained in the outcome of the review[585] and its stated commitment to implement them and look into the possibility of implementing a further 58 recommendations, and emphasizing the importance of the implementation of the recommendations in order to address the grave human rights violations in the country,

Noting with appreciation the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, and the collaboration established with the United Nations Children's Fund to improve the nutritional status of children and the quality of children's education,

Noting the activities undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, on a modest scale, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

Noting also the cooperation between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on food security assessments, underscoring the importance of those assessments in analysing changes in the national, household and individual food security and nutritional situation and thereby in supporting donor confidence in the targeting of aid programmes, noting further the letter of understanding signed by the Government and the World Food Programme and the importance of further improvements in operating conditions, bringing access and monitoring arrangements closer to international standards for all United Nations entities, and noting with appreciation the work of international aid operators,

Taking note of the United Nations report entitled "Democratic People's Republic of Korea 2016: needs and priorities" and its call to address the critical humanitarian needs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

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[579] A/71/439.

[580] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[581] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[582] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[583] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[584] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[585] A/HRC/27/10.

Expressing grave concern about the impact of diverting resources to advance nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles programmes on the humanitarian and human rights situation of the citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Noting the importance of the immediate return of all international abductees, expressing grave concern at the lack of positive action by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea since the investigations on all the Japanese nationals commenced on the basis of the government-level consultations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan in May 2014, and expecting the resolution of all issues related to the Japanese nationals, in particular the return of all abductees, to be achieved at the earliest possible date,

Welcoming and further encouraging the efforts of Member States to raise international awareness about the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Noting the importance of dialogue for the improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

Underlining the efforts of the Secretary-General to contribute to improving inter-Korean relations and promoting reconciliation and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the well-being of the Korean people,

Welcoming the resumption of the reunions of separated families across the border in October 2015, and, given that this is an urgent humanitarian concern of the entire Korean people, owing, in particular, to the advanced age of many members of the separated families, hoping that necessary arrangements for confirming the fate of family members, exchanging letters, visiting their hometowns and holding further reunions on a larger scale and a regular basis will be made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and members of the Korean diaspora,

1. *Condemns* the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including those which the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 22/13 of 21 March 2013,[586] has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and the continuing impunity for such violations;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* at:

(*a*) The persistence of continuing reports of violations of human rights, including the detailed findings made by the commission of inquiry in its report,[587] such as:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention; rape; public executions; extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour;

(ii) The existence of an extensive system of political prison camps, where a vast number of persons are deprived of their liberty and subjected to deplorable conditions, including forced labour, and where alarming violations of human rights are perpetrated;

(iii) The forcible transfer of populations and the limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;

(iv) The situation of refugees and asylum seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and sanctions imposed on citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, sexual violence or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[587] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[588] in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

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[586] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

(v) All-pervasive and severe restrictions, both online and offline, on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, persecution, torture, imprisonment and, in some instances, summary executions of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, religion or belief, and their families, and the right of everyone to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;

(vi) Violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to severe hunger, malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly;

(vii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, in particular the creation of internal conditions that force women to leave the country and make them extremely vulnerable to trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution, domestic servitude or forced marriage and the subjection of women to gender-based discrimination, including in the political and social spheres, forced abortions and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence;

(viii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;

(ix) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially violations involving the use of collective camps and coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and allegations of the possible use of persons with disabilities in medical testing, forced relocation to rural areas and separation of children with disabilities from their parents;

(x) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[580] and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[581] as well as the exploitation of workers sent abroad from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to work under conditions that reportedly amount to forced labour;

(xi) Discrimination based on the *songbun* system, which classifies people on the basis of State-assigned social class and birth, and also includes consideration of political opinions and religion;

(*b*) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations special procedures in accordance with their terms of reference, as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(*c*) The continued lack of acknowledgement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the grave human rights situation in the country and its consequential lack of action to implement the recommendations contained in the outcome of its first universal periodic review[589] and to give consideration to the concluding observations of the treaty bodies;

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[587] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[588] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[589] A/HRC/13/13.

3. *Underscores its very serious concern* at the systematic abduction, denial of repatriation and subsequent enforced disappearance of persons, including those from other countries, on a large scale and as a matter of State policy, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these issues of international concern, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

4. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, which could rapidly deteriorate owing to limited resilience to natural disasters and to government policies causing limitations in the availability of and access to adequate food, compounded by structural weaknesses in agricultural production resulting in significant shortages of diversified food and the State restrictions on the cultivation of and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, pregnant and lactating women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and political prisoners, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, cooperating where necessary with international donor agencies and in accordance with international standards for monitoring humanitarian assistance;

5. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, commends the activities undertaken by the former Special Rapporteur, despite the denial of access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and in this regard welcomes the final report submitted to the Human Rights Council by the former Special Rapporteur, pursuant to Council resolution 28/22 of 27 March 2015,[590] in which he called upon the international community to take steps to promote accountability;[591]

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the work of the commission of inquiry, recognizes the continuing importance of its report, and regrets that the commission received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including with regard to access to the country;

7. *Acknowledges* the commission's finding that the body of testimony gathered and the information received provide reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State for decades and by institutions under the effective control of its leadership;

8. *Expresses its concern* at the failure of the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prosecute those responsible for human rights violations, including violations which the commission of inquiry has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and encourages the international community to cooperate with accountability efforts and to ensure that such crimes do not remain unpunished;

9. *Encourages* the Security Council to continue its consideration of the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the commission of inquiry and take appropriate action to ensure accountability, including through consideration of referral of the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court and consideration of the further development of sanctions in order to target effectively those who appear to be most responsible for human rights violations that the commission has said may constitute crimes against humanity;

10. *Also encourages* the Security Council to continue to discuss the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the country's human rights record, in the light of the serious concerns expressed in the present resolution, and looks forward to its continued and more active engagement on this matter;

11. *Encourages* the continuing endeavours of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights field-based structure in Seoul, and welcomes its regular reporting to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to undertake to ensure that the field-based structure of the Office of the High Commissioner can function with independence, has sufficient resources and support to fulfil its mandate, enjoys full cooperation with relevant Member States and is not subjected to any reprisals or threats;

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[590] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[591] A/HRC/31/70 and Corr.1.

13. *Welcomes* the establishment of the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as set out by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 31/18;[576]

14. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(*a*) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Council in the context of the universal periodic review and by the commission of inquiry, the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(*b*) To immediately close the political prison camps and to release all political prisoners unconditionally and without any delay;

(*c*) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for crimes involving violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(*d*) To tackle the root causes leading to refugee outflows and prosecute those who exploit refugees through migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims of trafficking;

(*e*) To ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are treated humanely and are not subjected to any kind of punishment, and to provide information on their status and treatment;

(*f*) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other special procedures of the Human Rights Council as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms so that a full needs assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(*g*) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and his Office, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country;

(*h*) To implement the accepted recommendations stemming from the universal periodic review and to consider positively those recommendations which are still under consideration, as well as the preparation of a midterm implementation report;

(*i*) To become a member of the International Labour Organization, to enact legislation and adopt practices to comply with international labour standards and to consider ratifying all the relevant conventions;

(*j*) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(*k*) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to humanitarian aid, as well as to critical data, and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to secure the impartial delivery of such aid to all parts of the country, including detention facilities, on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, to ensure access to adequate food and implement more effective food security and nutrition policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production and distribution measures and the allocation of more funds to the food sector, and to ensure adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance;

(*l*) To further improve cooperation with the United Nations country team and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(*m*) To consider ratifying and acceding to the remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies, to resume reporting to monitoring bodies on treaties to which it is a party, to participate meaningfully in treaty body reviews, and to give consideration to the concluding observations of such bodies in order to improve the human rights situation in the country;

15. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations of the commission of inquiry without delay;

16. *Encourages* all Member States, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Secretariat, relevant specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and forums, civil society organizations, foundations and engaged business enterprises and other stakeholders towards which the commission of inquiry has directed recommendations to implement or take forward those recommendations;

17. *Encourages* the United Nations system as a whole to continue to address the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a coordinated and unified manner;

18. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other related organizations to assist the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the implementation of recommendations stemming from the universal periodic review and from the report of the commission of inquiry;

19. *Calls upon* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to continue to engage constructively with international interlocutors with a view to promoting concrete improvements in the human rights situation on the ground, including through human rights dialogues, official visits to the country that include adequate access to fully assess human rights conditions, cooperation initiatives and more people-to-people contact as a matter of priority;

20. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its seventy-second session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations, as well as to report on the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry.

RESOLUTION 71/203

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.3, para. 34),[552] by a recorded vote of 116 to 16, with 52 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen

Against: Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

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[552] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, Comoros, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen.

71/203. Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[593] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[594]

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter,

Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014 and 70/234 of 23 December 2015, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,[595] S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,[595] S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,[596] 19/1 of 1 March 2012,[597] 19/22 of 23 March 2012,[597] S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,[598] 20/22 of 6 July 2012,[599] 21/26 of 28 September 2012,[600] 22/24 of 22 March 2013,[601] 23/1 of 29 May 2013,[602] 23/26 of 14 June 2013,[602] 24/22 of 27 September 2013,[603] 25/23 of 28 March 2014,[604] 26/23 of 27 June 2014,[605] 27/16 of 25 September 2014,[606] 28/20 of 27 March 2015,[607] 29/16 of 2 July 2015,[608] 30/10 of 1 October 2015,[609] 31/17 of 23 March 2016,[610] 32/25 of 1 July 2016,[611] 33/23 of 30 September 2016[612] and S-25/1 of 21 October 2016[613] and Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2170 (2014) of 15 August 2014, 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016 and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, and the statements by the President of the Council of 3 August 2011,[614] 2 October 2013[615] and 17 August 2015,[616]

Condemning the grave deterioration of the human rights situation and the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians as such, in violation of international humanitarian law, and acts of violence that foment sectarian tensions,

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[593] Resolution 217 A (III).

[594] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[595] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[596] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[597] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[598] Ibid., chap. V.

[599] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[600] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[601] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[602] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[603] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[604] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[605] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[606] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[607] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. II.

[608] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[609] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[610] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. II.

[611] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[612] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[613] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and Corr.1), chap. II.

[614] S/PRST/2011/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2011–31 July 2012* (S/INF/67).

[615] S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

[616] S/PRST/2015/15.

Noting with deep concern the culture of impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the present conflict, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

Recalling that, amid expressions of popular discontent over restrictions on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic and social rights, civilian protests erupted in Dar'a in March 2011, and noting that the excessive and violent oppression of civilian protests by the Syrian authorities, which later escalated to the direct shelling of civilians, fuelled the escalation of armed violence and extremist groups, including so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL-Da'esh),

Expressing outrage at the continuing escalation of violence in the Syrian Arab Republic, which has caused more than 400,000 fatalities, including the killing of many more than 15,000 children, and in particular at the continued widespread and systematic gross violations, as well as abuses, of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including those involving the continued indiscriminate use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments, such as the indiscriminate use of ballistic missiles, bunker-busting bombs, cluster munitions and barrel and vacuum bombs, and by the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the use of chlorine gas, which are prohibited under international humanitarian law, by the Syrian authorities against the Syrian population,

Expressing outrage and grave concern at the escalation of violence in eastern Aleppo as a result of the recent offensive by the Syrian authorities and their allies, which has caused hundreds of civilian casualties, including rescue workers, first responders, women and more than 100 children, and nearly 2,000 injured and has included repeated attacks against medical facilities, medical personnel and patients and on critical civilian infrastructure,

Recalling the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and recalling also that, under international law, attacks intentionally directed against hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided that they are not military objectives, as well as attacks intentionally directed against buildings, material, medical units and transport and personnel using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[617] in conformity with international law are war crimes,

Expressing grave concern at the disproportionate use of force by the Syrian authorities against civilians, which has caused immense human suffering and fomented the spread of extremism and extremist groups and which demonstrates the failure of the Syrian authorities to protect its population and to implement the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies,

Expressing grave concern also at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, terrorism and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular so-called ISIL-Da'esh, Al-Nusrah Front and militias fighting on behalf of the regime, Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups and other extremist groups,

Expressing its deepest concern about the findings of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the use of chemical weapons in at least three attacks and so-called ISIL-Da'esh was responsible for one attack, reaffirming the principles of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[618] and the determination of the States parties to the Convention "for the sake of all mankind, to exclude completely the possibility of the use of chemical weapons, through the implementation of the provisions of this Convention", and noting that the Convention entered into force in the Syrian Arab Republic on 14 October 2013,

Expressing support for the work carried out by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, and strongly condemning the lack of cooperation by the Syrian authorities with the Commission of Inquiry,

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[617] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[618] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

Noting with serious concern the observation of the Commission of Inquiry that, since March 2011, the Syrian authorities have conducted widespread attacks against the civilian population as a matter of policy,

Strongly condemning the widespread practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual and gender-based violence and torture in detention centres referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry, including, but not limited to, Branch 215, Branch 227, Branch 235, Branch 251, Air Force Intelligence Investigation Branch at Mezzeh military airport, and Sednaya prison, as well as military hospitals, including Tishreen and Harasta hospitals,

Recalling the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, noting the repeated encouragement by the High Commissioner for the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court, and regretting that a draft resolution[619] was not adopted notwithstanding broad support from Member States,

Expressing its deepest concern about the findings of the Commission of Inquiry and also the allegations contained in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014 regarding the torture and execution of persons incarcerated by the Syrian authorities, and underscoring the need for those allegations and similar evidence to be collected, examined and made available for future accountability efforts,

Expressing concern that the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015), 2268 (2016) and 2286 (2016) remains largely unfulfilled, and noting the urgent need to strengthen efforts to address the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including through protection of civilians and rapid, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access,

Recalling its commitment to Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), and 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015,

Alarmed that more than 4.8 million refugees, including more than 3.6 million women and children, have been forced to flee the Syrian Arab Republic and that 13.5 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic, of whom 6.1 million are internally displaced, require urgent humanitarian assistance, which has resulted in an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries, other countries in the region and beyond, and alarmed at the risk the situation presents to regional and international stability,

Expressing its profound indignation at the death of many more than 15,000 children and the many more injured since the beginning of the peaceful protests in March 2011, and at all grave violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape, kidnapping and abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, detention, torture, ill-treatment and their use as human shields,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and other countries in the region to accommodate Syrians, while acknowledging the increasing financial, socioeconomic and political impact of the presence of large-scale refugee and displaced populations in those countries, notably in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq, Egypt and Libya,

Welcoming the hosting by the Government of Kuwait of the First, Second and Third International Humanitarian Pledging Conferences for Syria, held on 30 January 2013, 15 January 2014 and 31 March 2015, and expressing its deep appreciation for the significant pledges of humanitarian assistance that have been made, welcoming also the initiative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Norway, Kuwait and the United Nations, which co-hosted the London conference on supporting the Syrian Arab Republic and the region on 4 February 2016, and renewing its call upon all members of the international community to respond expeditiously to the Syrian humanitarian appeals and to disburse all previous pledges,

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[619] S/2014/348.

Welcoming also the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and all diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian crisis based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,[620] and consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015),

Expressing full support for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, with a view to the protection of the civilian population and the full implementation of the Syrian political process that establishes credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance, in accordance with the final communiqué and consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2258 (2015), urging the Special Envoy to pave the way for the negotiation of a genuine political transition, demanding a restoration of the cessation of hostilities and that all parties to the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic respect their commitments, and urging all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence to ensure respect for those commitments and the full implementation of those resolutions, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

1. *Strongly condemns* the recent escalation of attacks directed against civilians in Aleppo and other besieged and hard-to-reach areas, and demands that the humanitarian provisions of Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015) and 2286 (2016) be immediately implemented and that humanitarian aid be safely delivered to all people in need;

2. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of international human rights law and all violations of international humanitarian law committed, in particular all indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks, including the use of barrel bombs in civilian areas and against civilian infrastructure, and demands that all parties immediately demilitarize medical facilities and schools and comply with their obligations under international law;

3. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued armed violence by the Syrian authorities against its own people since the beginning of the peaceful protests in 2011, and demands that the Syrian authorities immediately put an end to all indiscriminate attacks, including those involving the use of terror tactics, air strikes, barrel and vacuum bombs, incendiary weapons, chemical weapons and heavy artillery;

4. *Strongly condemns* any use of any toxic chemicals, such as chlorine, by any party as a weapon in the Syrian Arab Republic;

5. *Recalls* the decision of the Security Council that the Syrian Arab Republic shall not use, develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile or retain chemical weapons, or transfer, directly or indirectly, chemical weapons to other States or non-State actors, and, in keeping with the decision of the Council, expresses its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic should be held accountable, and calls for a significant enhancement of the verification measures of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

6. *Welcomes* the reports of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism of 24 August 2016[621] and 21 October 2016,[622] and notes with deep concern its findings that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the use of chemical weapons in at least three attacks in the Syrian Arab Republic (Talmenes in 2014, Sarmin in 2015 and Qmenas in 2015) and that so-called ISIL-Da'esh was responsible for one mustard gas attack in the Syrian Arab Republic (Marea in 2015);

7. *Demands* that the Syrian regime and so-called ISIL-Da'esh immediately cease the use of chemical weapons, and also demands that the Syrian regime adhere fully to its international obligations, including the requirement that it declare in full its chemical weapons programme, with special emphasis on the need for the Syrian Arab Republic to urgently resolve the verified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies pertaining to its declaration in respect of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of

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[620] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex II.

[621] S/2016/738/Rev.1.

[622] S/2016/888.

Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[618] and to eliminate its chemical weapons programme in its entirety as referred to in the report of the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons dated 22 February 2016[623] indicating that the Technical Secretariat is at present unable to verify fully that the declaration and related submissions of the Syrian Arab Republic are accurate and complete, as required by the Convention and decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;[624]

8. *Requests* additional procedures for stringent verification pursuant to article IV, paragraph 8, and article V, paragraph 10, of the Convention, in order to ensure the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and prevent any further use of chemical weapons;

9. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, the Government-affiliated *shabbiha* militias and those who fight on their behalf, including those deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects, including attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, with heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles, barrel bombs, chemical or other weapons and other force against civilians, as well as the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of peaceful protestors, human rights defenders and journalists, individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of women's and children's rights, forced displacement of members of minority groups, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment;

10. *Calls for* a restoration of the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic, demands that all the parties, most notably the Syrian regime, stop their attacks against civilians, including in populated areas, and that all parties to the cessation of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic redouble their efforts to fulfil their commitments, consistent with Security Council resolution 2268 (2016), and urges all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence with the parties to the cessation of hostilities to ensure immediate implementation of a monitored and enforceable cessation of hostilities, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law;

11. *Strongly condemns* all human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, by armed extremists, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by armed anti-Government groups;

12. *Deplores and strongly condemns* the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called ISIL-Da'esh and Al-Nusrah Front and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism, including the actions of so-called ISIL-Da'esh, cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization;

13. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the gross and systematic abuse of women's and children's rights by so-called ISIL-Da'esh, in particular the enslavement and sexual abuse of women and girls and the forced recruitment, use and abduction of children;

14. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, and calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may amount to crimes against humanity;

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[623] EC-81/HP/DG.1.

[624] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex I.

15. *Reminds* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic of its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[625] including to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to comply with any relevant obligations under the Convention, including with respect to the extradite or prosecute principle contained in article 7 of the Convention;

16. *Strongly condemns* the reported persistent and widespread use of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, including in government detention centres, including those run by the intelligence agencies, and notes that such acts may constitute violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law, and in this regard expresses deep concern at the prevailing climate of impunity for sexual violence crimes;

17. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and all other forms of sexual violence, abductions, denial of humanitarian access for children, and attacks on civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields;

18. *Recalls* the statement made by the Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic on 21 September 2015 that the Syrian authorities remain responsible for the majority of the civilian casualties, killing and maiming scores of civilians daily, reiterates its decision to transmit the reports of the Commission of Inquiry to the Security Council, expresses its appreciation to the Commission of Inquiry for its briefings to members of the Security Council, and requests that the Commission of Inquiry continue to brief the General Assembly and members of the Security Council;

19. *Reaffirms* the Syrian authorities' responsibility for enforced disappearances, takes note of the assessment of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian authorities' use of enforced disappearances amounts to a crime against humanity, and condemns the targeted disappearances of young men, following Government-brokered ceasefires;

20. *Expresses its profound concern* about the findings contained in the report of the Commission of Inquiry regarding the tragic and relentless level of indiscriminate attacks on civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic, targeted attacks on protected persons and objects, including medical facilities, personnel and transport and blocked humanitarian convoys, as well as enforced disappearances, summary executions and other violations and abuses;

21. *Deplores* the horrific attack on 19 September 2016 on a United Nations-Syrian Arab Red Crescent aid convoy in rural Aleppo, which was in clear violation of international humanitarian law, welcomes the decision of the United Nations to investigate this attack, calls for the perpetrators to be held accountable, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of an internal and independent United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry into the incident, and reaffirms that humanitarian workers and their means of transport, equipment and facilities must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law;

22. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full and unfettered access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic;

23. *Also demands* that the Syrian authorities meet their responsibilities to protect the Syrian population;

24. *Strongly condemns* the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, particularly the Al-Quds Brigades, the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and militia groups such as Hizbullah, Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq and Liwa' Abu al-Fadl al-Abbas, and expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region;

25. *Also strongly condemns* all attacks against the Syrian moderate opposition, and calls for their immediate cessation, given that such attacks benefit so-called ISIL-Da'esh and other terrorist groups, such as Al-Nusrah Front, and contribute to a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation;

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[625] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

26. *Demands* that all foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are fighting in support of the Syrian authorities, immediately withdraw from the Syrian Arab Republic;

27. *Also demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, immediately demilitarize such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian authorities bear primary responsibility for protecting its population;

28. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the increasing number of massacres and other mass casualty incidents, including those which may constitute a war crime, taking place in the Syrian Arab Republic, and requests the Commission of Inquiry to continue to investigate all such acts;

29. *Recalls* the statements made by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Mr. Staffan de Mistura, indicating that the overwhelming majority of the civilian casualties in the Syrian Arab Republic have been caused by the indiscriminate use of aerial bombardments, demands in this regard that the Syrian authorities immediately cease any attacks on civilians, any disproportionate attacks and any indiscriminate use of weapons in populated areas, including any indiscriminate use of weapons involving shelling and aerial bombardment, in particular the use of barrel bombs and methods of warfare which are of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering, and recalls in this regard the obligation to respect international humanitarian law in all circumstances;

30. *Emphasizes* the need for accountability for crimes involving breaches of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level;

31. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate conduct in the Syrian Arab Republic and to prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share relevant information between States in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and encourages other States to consider doing the same;

32. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility for providing urgent financial support to enable the host countries and communities to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the principle of burden-sharing;

33. *Calls upon* all members of the international community, including all donors, to fulfil their previous pledges and continue to provide much-needed support to the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Syrians displaced both internally and in host countries and communities;

34. *Strongly condemns* the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance to civilians, from whatever quarter, and in particular the denial of medical assistance and the withdrawal of water and sanitation services to civilian areas, which has recently worsened, stressing that the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international law, noting especially the primary responsibility of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in this regard, and deplores the deteriorating humanitarian situation;

35. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities and all other parties to the conflict not hinder the full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained access of the United Nations and humanitarian actors, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas, consistent with Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015) and 2258 (2015);

36. *Strongly condemns* practices including abduction, hostage-taking, incommunicado detention, torture, the brutal murder of innocent civilians and summary executions carried out by non-State armed groups and terrorist groups, most notably so-called ISIL-Da'esh and Al-Nusrah Front, and underlines that such acts may amount to crimes against humanity;

37. *Deplores* the suffering and torture in detention centres throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, as depicted in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014, demands that the Syrian authorities immediately release all persons arbitrarily detained and ensure that detention conditions are consistent with international law, and calls upon the Syrian authorities to publish a list of all detention facilities;

38. *Demands* that the Syrian authorities halt the arbitrary detention of individuals and release all those unlawfully detained, and that so-called ISIL-Da'esh, Al-Nusrah Front and all other groups release all those detained;

39. *Calls for* the appropriate international monitoring bodies to be granted access to detainees in government prisons and detention centres, including all military facilities referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry;

40. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including members of ethnic, religious and confessional communities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect its population lies with the Syrian authorities;

41. *Strongly condemns* the damage and destruction of the cultural heritage of the Syrian Arab Republic, bearing in mind the widespread destruction recently brought about by air bombings in Aleppo, a World Heritage Site of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as the organized looting and trafficking of its cultural property, as outlined by the Security Council in its resolution 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015;

42. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law or violations and abuses of human rights law are held to account through appropriate fair and independent domestic or international, criminal justice mechanisms in accordance with the principle of complementarity, and stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal, and for this reason encourages the Security Council to take appropriate action to ensure accountability, noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard;

43. *Welcomes* the efforts of those countries outside the region that have put in place measures and policies to assist and host Syrian refugees, encourages them to do more, and encourages other States outside the region to consider also implementing similar measures and policies, with a view to providing Syrian refugees with protection and humanitarian assistance;

44. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, personnel of the specialized agencies and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, stresses the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, recalls that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes, and notes in this regard that the Security Council reaffirmed in its resolution 2258 (2015) that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) or 2258 (2015) by any Syrian party;

45. *Calls upon* the international community to support the leadership and full participation of women in all efforts aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as envisaged by the Security Council in its resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015;

46. *Reaffirms* that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the parties to the conflict to abstain from actions that may contribute to the continuing deterioration of the human rights, security and humanitarian situation, in order to reach a genuine political transition, based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,[620] consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2268 (2016), that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a civil, democratic and pluralistic State, with the full and effective participation of women, where there is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender or any other grounds, and where all citizens receive equal protection, regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity, and further demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the final communiqué, including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring the continuity of governmental institutions.

RESOLUTION 71/204

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.3, para. 34),[626] by a recorded vote of 85 to 35, with 63 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen

Against: Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia

71/204. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[627] the International Covenants on Human Rights[628] and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 70/173 of 17 December 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General of 6 September 2016,[629] submitted pursuant to resolution 70/173, and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran of 30 September 2016,[630] submitted pursuant to Council resolution 31/19 of 23 March 2016;[631]

2. *Continues to welcome* the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to some important human rights issues, particularly on eliminating discrimination against women and members of ethnic minorities and on greater space for freedom of expression and opinion;

3. *Acknowledges* legislative and administrative changes in the Islamic Republic of Iran, which, if properly implemented, would address some human rights concerns, including portions of the new Code of Criminal Procedure;

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[626] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[627] Resolution 217 A (III).

[628] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[629] A/71/374.

[630] A/71/418.

[631] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

4. *Welcomes* the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with human rights treaty bodies, including through the submission of periodic reports, and notes in particular the engagement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its participation in the universal periodic review;

5. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host large numbers of Afghan refugees, granting them access to basic services, in particular access to health care and education for children;

6. *Further welcomes* the decision of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to postpone the annual civil service entry exam because of concerns that it discriminates against women;

7. *Welcomes* the increasing contact with and dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the invitations extended to other special procedures mandate holders;

8. *Also welcomes* the recently expressed readiness of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and other Iranian officials to engage in bilateral dialogues on human rights;

9. *Expresses serious concern* at the alarmingly high frequency of the imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of its international obligations, including executions undertaken for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, on the basis of forced confessions or against minors and persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of both the Convention on the Rights of the Child[632] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[628] expresses concern at the continuing disregard for internationally recognized safeguards, including executions undertaken without notification to the prisoner's family members or legal counsel, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary;

10. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual violence, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offence, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations;

11. *Urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease enforced disappearances and the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention, and to uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure fair trial standards, including timely access to legal representation of one's choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and all appeals, the right not to be subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial;

12. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, to eliminate the denial of access to adequate medical treatment and the consequent risk of death faced by prisoners and to put an end to the continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections despite serious concerns about their health, as well as the pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest;

13. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which an independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to end widespread and serious restrictions, in law and in practice, on the right to freedom of expression, opinion, association and peaceful assembly, both online and offline, including by ending the harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women's and minority rights activists, labour leaders, students' rights activists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers and persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities and their families, and further calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons arbitrarily detained for the legitimate exercise of these

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[632] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

rights, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including the death penalty and long-term internal exile, for exercising such fundamental freedoms and to end reprisals against individuals, including for cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

14. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, including with respect to the right to freedom of movement, the right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and the right to work, to take measures to ensure protection for women and girls against violence and their equal protection and access to justice, to address the concerning incidence of child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to promote, support and enable women's participation in leadership and decision-making processes and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women's equal access to all aspects of education and women's equal participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life;

15. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to religious, ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including but not limited to Arabs, Azeris, Balochis and Kurds, and their defenders;

16. *Expresses serious concern* about ongoing severe limitations and restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to harassment, persecution, arbitrary arrests and detention, denial of access to education and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians and members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a recognized or unrecognized minority religious group, including the seven Baha'i leaders declared by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council to have been arbitrarily detained since 2008, and to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination, including economic restrictions, such as the closure or confiscation of businesses and properties, the cancellation of licences and denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities;

17. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to launch a comprehensive accountability process in response to all cases of serious human rights violations, including those involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end impunity for such violations;

18. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure credible, transparent and inclusive presidential elections in 2017 and to allow all candidates to stand in a manner consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[627] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in order to guarantee the free expression of the will of the Iranian people, and to that end calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to allow independent national and international observation;

19. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that are imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to consider acting upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

20. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with international human rights mechanisms by:

(*a*) Cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including by accepting the repeated requests made by the Special Rapporteur to visit the country in order to carry out the mandate;

(*b*) Increasing cooperation with other special mechanisms, including by facilitating long-standing requests for access to the country from thematic special procedures mandate holders, whose access to its territory has been restricted or denied, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran, without imposing undue conditions upon those visits;

(*c*) Implementing all accepted universal periodic review recommendations from its first cycle, in 2010, and its second cycle, in 2014, with the full and genuine participation of independent civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process;

(*d*) Building upon the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the universal periodic review process by continuing to explore cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(*e*) Following through on its commitment to establish an independent national human rights institution, made in the context of both its first and its second universal periodic reviews by the Human Rights Council, with due regard for the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

21. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to translate the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to human rights concerns into concrete action that results in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to ensure that its national laws are consistent with its obligations under international human rights law and that they are implemented in accordance with its international obligations;

22. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations in law and in practice;

23. *Strongly encourages* the relevant thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fourth session;

25. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 71/205

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/484/Add.3, para. 34),[633] by a recorded vote of 70 to 26, with 77 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen

Against: Angola, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Philippines, Russian Federation, Serbia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe

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[633] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Abstaining: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia

71/205. Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine)

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[634] international human rights treaties and other relevant international instruments and declarations,

Confirming the primary responsibility of States to promote and protect human rights,

Reaffirming the responsibility of States to respect international law, including the principle that all States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and from acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system,

Condemning the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter "Crimea") – by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

Welcoming the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine, of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and of the human rights assessment mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they stated that violations and abuses of human rights continued to take place in Crimea and pointed to the sharp deterioration of the overall human rights situation,

Condemning the imposition of the legal system of the Russian Federation and the negative impact on the human rights situation in Crimea,

Condemning also the reported serious violations and abuses committed against residents of Crimea, in particular extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, politically motivated prosecutions, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence, arbitrary detentions, torture and ill-treatment of detainees and their transfer from Crimea to the Russian Federation, as well as reported abuses of other fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, religion or belief and association and the right to peaceful assembly,

Expressing serious concern at the decision of the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea of 26 April 2016 and the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation of 29 September 2016 to declare the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, the self-governing body of the Crimean Tatars, to be an extremist organization and to ban its activities,

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[634] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling the prohibition under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[635] for the occupying Power to compel a protected person to serve in its armed or auxiliary forces,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations to support Ukraine in promoting, protecting and ensuring human rights, and expressing concern over the lack of safe and unfettered access by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea,

1. *Condemns* the abuses, measures and practices of discrimination against the residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, including Crimean Tatars, as well as Ukrainians and persons belonging to other ethnic and religious groups, by the Russian occupation authorities;

2. *Urges* the Russian Federation:

(*a*) To uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law as an occupying Power;

(*b*) To take all measures necessary to bring an immediate end to all abuses against residents of Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and to revoke all discriminatory legislation;

(*c*) To immediately release Ukrainian citizens who were unlawfully detained and judged without regard for elementary standards of justice, as well as those transferred across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation;

(*d*) To address the issue of impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for abuses are held accountable before an independent judiciary;

(*e*) To create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for journalists and human rights defenders to perform their work independently and without undue interference in Crimea;

(*f*) To permit the reopening of cultural and religious institutions;

(*g*) To revoke immediately the decision declaring the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People an extremist organization and banning its activities, and repeal the decision banning leaders of the Mejlis from entering Crimea;

(*h*) To cooperate fully and immediately with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe on the situation of human rights in Crimea;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to ensure safe and unfettered access to Crimea by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms to enable them to carry out their mandate;

4. *Urges* the Russian Federation to ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea, recognizing that the international presence in Crimea is of paramount importance in preventing further deterioration of the situation;

5. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a dedicated thematic report on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in accordance with the existing mandate and within the existing resources of the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine, which is currently funded by voluntary contributions;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[635] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

RESOLUTION 71/206

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/485, para. 24)[636]

71/206. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,[637] should be held,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development, and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments in staying fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits, and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[638]

Recalling its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015, in which it endorsed the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the implementation of the Doha Declaration under the standing item on its agenda entitled "Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice",

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[636] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[637] Resolution 46/152, annex.

[638] See E/CN.15/2007/6.

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015,

Encouraged by the success of the Thirteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fourteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[639]

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[640] when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Qatar to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the implementation of the Doha Declaration, and also welcomes the funding agreement signed on 27 November 2015 between the Government and the Office;

4. *Invites* Member States to provide their suggestions in relation to the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and requests the Secretary-General to include those suggestions in the report on the follow-up to the Thirteenth Congress and preparations for the Fourteenth Congress to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session;

5. *Recommends* that, building on the experience and the success of the Thirteenth Congress, all efforts be made to ensure that the overall theme and the agenda items and workshop topics of the Fourteenth Congress be interrelated and that the agenda items and workshop topics be streamlined and limited in number, and encourages the holding of side events that are focused on and complement the agenda items and workshops;

6. *Requests* the Commission to approve at its twenty-sixth session the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress.

RESOLUTION 71/207

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/485, para. 24)[641]

71/207. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/198 of 18 December 2014 and 70/180 of 17 December 2015 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[642]

Bearing in mind that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

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[639] E/CN.15/2016/11.

[640] Resolution 70/174, annex.

[641] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Italy, and Niger (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[642] A/71/121.

Aware of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime being recorded in Africa, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, and aware also of illicit trafficking in cultural property, drugs, precious metals, rhinoceros horns and ivory, of piracy and money-laundering and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and that criminal justice procedures will have to be more cost-conscious, timely and expeditious and sensitive to public responses to minimize or eliminate any suspicion of compromise,

Emphasizing that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

Recalling the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

Expressing concern over the continued absence of a director of the Institute, and noting the important role of such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

Noting with concern that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

Recalling the detailed description provided in the report of the Secretary-General of funding deficiencies that have severely undermined the Institute's capacity to serve the needs of the region, and recognizing that crime results in the expenditure of a significant amount of resources,

Bearing in mind that the Institute is an important component of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice network, and that without the necessary funds, the Institute will fail to accomplish its vital goals of combating drug trafficking, cybercrime and environmental crimes, among other challenges, as well as its goals of reforming the crucial deficiencies in the region's prosecution system and building effective and strong alliances among law enforcement personnel, professional bodies, academic institutions, individual communities, experts and traditional and civil authorities in order to proactively prevent crime,

Acknowledging the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including

regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Also commends* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in strengthening its working relationship with the Institute by supporting and involving the Institute in the implementation of a number of activities, including those contained in the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), on strengthening the rule of law and criminal justice systems in Africa;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Also reiterates* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

5. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

6. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

7. *Urges* States members of the Institute that have failed to meet their financial pledges to the Institute to pay all or part of those outstanding arrears, taking into consideration that member States are to fund 73 per cent of the approved budget;

8. *Recalls* the report of the Governing Board of the Institute, convened in Lilongwe on 29 May 2015, which outlines the positive conclusion of the review process aimed at reinvigorating the Institute and discusses measures to address the decline in financial support for the programmes of the Institute;

9. *Also recalls* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

10. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

11. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[643] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[644] and encourages States parties that have not yet implemented the conventions to inform the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of any impediments they encounter and of their need for technical assistance to overcome those impediments;

12. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

13. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the Institute's collaboration with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

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[643] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[644] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

14. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

15. *Welcomes* the Institute's initiative to collaborate with relevant universities to operationalize the link between criminal justice authorities and sources of traditional justice approaches, so as to harmonize the use of restorative practices where they may be appropriate;

16. *Also welcomes* the Institute's initiatives to work with specific academic and specialized human rights institutions that are connected to other professional networks in the region to promote curricula that have a strong crime prevention and criminal justice component;

17. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country, with specific emphasis on tailoring practitioner training and development efforts to address identified vulnerabilities, and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office as well as to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a biennial report with a specific focus on the current and future structural, financial, administrative and operational aspects of the Institute, giving due consideration to intensifying efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to deliver services effectively.

RESOLUTION 71/208

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/485, para. 24)[645]

71/208. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December

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[645] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burundi, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Italy, Jamaica, Lesotho, Libya, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013 and 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013[646] and 29/11 of 2 July 2015,[647]

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[648] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation,

Stressing the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Bearing in mind the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, under which States parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015 on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption, at the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress, of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,[649] through which States committed to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank,

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[646] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[647] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[648] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[649] Resolution 70/174, annex.

Recognizing that education plays a fundamental role in the prevention of and fight against corruption, inasmuch as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law at the national and international levels, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

Acknowledging that good governance, at the national and international levels, has a role in the prevention of and fight against corruption,

Realizing that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

Recognizing that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

Recalling that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

Recalling also article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention, in which States parties are encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal systems, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption,

Welcoming the commitment of States parties to the Convention, in particular their determination to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

Recognizing that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III, and recognizing the strategic role of a holistic approach to countering corruption, money-laundering and transnational organized crime,

Recognizing that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[650] including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013[651] and resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015[652] of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of States parties to the Convention to the first review cycle process of the Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, as well as the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard,

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[650] See CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect. I.A.

[651] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.B.

[652] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

Recognizing the launch of the second review cycle of the Mechanism pursuant to paragraph 13 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism and consistent with resolution 6/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,

Bearing in mind that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

Reaffirming that strengthening international cooperation among law enforcement and other relevant agencies is a global imperative in order to effectively prevent and combat transnational corruption,

Affirming the importance of promoting dialogue among central authorities and practitioners prior to the submission of mutual legal assistance requests, which are particularly valuable in investigations of corruption, and coordination and cooperation on asset recovery through inter-agency networks, including regional networks, where appropriate,

Reaffirming its concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

Expressing concern over illicit financial flows, and related tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering, and their negative impact on the world economy, and inviting Member States to consider developing strategies or policies to combat those practices and to curb the harmful effects of jurisdictions and territories that are uncooperative in tax matters and to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows,

Noting the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

Recognizing that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

Concerned about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

Recognizing the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

Recognizing also the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

Calling upon all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

Noting the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, *Concerned* that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions and have been successful in hiding their assets,

Taking into account the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of the illicit profits and proceeds of their crimes,

Acknowledging the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

Acknowledging also the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Concerned about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

Noting with appreciation also the efforts made by those States that have established national coordination mechanisms between, inter alia, the different levels of their Governments and other actors, such as civil society organizations, the private sector and academia, to prevent and combat corruption,

Noting with appreciation further the efforts of regional organizations and forums to combat corruption, including, inter alia, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

Noting with appreciation the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcoming their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States,

Noting with appreciation also the Lausanne process initiative on practical guidelines for the efficient recovery of stolen assets, developed by 30 States parties to the Convention in close collaboration with the International Centre for Asset Recovery and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, and aimed at developing effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States,

Welcoming resolution 6/3 of 6 November 2015 on fostering effective asset recovery[652] and resolution 6/4 of 6 November 2015 on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, including through international cooperation, in the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[652] adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and also

welcomes its report,[653] which reflects the outcomes and contributions of the Conference of the States Parties to promoting the implementation of the Convention;

2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[648]

4. *Welcomes* the fact that 180 States parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

5. *Urges* all countries that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and acceding to the Convention, and encourages States parties to the Convention to review its implementation and commit to making it an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and encourage the international community to develop good practices on asset return, and, furthermore, to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the panel discussion on the negative impact of corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, held at the twenty-second session of the Human Rights Council;

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews,[654]

8. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first review cycle of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned during the first review cycle in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;

9. *Strongly encourages* States parties to the Convention to engage actively in the second review cycle of the Mechanism on chapter II, Preventive measures, and chapter V, Asset recovery, of the Convention, and invites them to provide appropriate extrabudgetary resources to contribute to the financing of the second review cycle;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all of these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

11. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to continue and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

12. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to strengthen their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

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[653] CAC/COSP/2015/10.

[654] CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.

13. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

14. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to make available online, including by considering the use of open data formats, as much government information as feasible, subject to relevant limitations in domestic law, in relation to the implementation of the Convention, in order to enable greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;

15. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, including those related to the States concerned in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as other requesting States, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;[655]

16. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and, where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the network of focal points of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

17. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication and the possibility of spontaneous exchange of information, as permitted by domestic law, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for mutual legal assistance;

18. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures, and also encourages States parties to limit, where appropriate, domestic legal immunities, in accordance with their legal systems and constitutional principles;

19. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

20. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

21. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, including through measures to permit recognition of non-conviction-based seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, where possible;

22. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous and prompt disclosures of information on proceeds of

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[655] CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A, resolution 5/3, para. 6.

offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgments;

23. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable beneficial ownership information on companies is accessible to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and execution of requests;

24. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

25. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption offences, committed by natural or legal persons, including, if appropriate, through mutual legal assistance, for the detection of corruption offences, the identification, freezing and confiscation of assets, and the other purposes established in article 46, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures, in accordance with their domestic law, to permit another Member State to initiate civil action in their courts to establish title to or ownership of property acquired through the commission of corruption offences by natural or legal persons, as well as to permit their courts to recognize a civil claim of another Member State for payment of compensation or damages caused by corruption offences and for ownership of confiscated property acquired through the commission of such offences;

27. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

28. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracking of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

29. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

30. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability, and in this respect encourages legal professionals and non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to assist businesses, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, to develop codes of conduct and compliance programmes for preventing bribery and corruption and promoting integrity;

31. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/5 by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;[656]

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[656] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.

32. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

33. *Notes* the establishment by States of financial intelligence units, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider establishing such units in accordance with article 58 of the Convention;

34. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

35. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals engaged in corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

36. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

37. *Invites* Member States to make every effort to prevent and counter corruption and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of their criminal justice systems, in accordance with the Convention;

38. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

39. *Also calls for* closer and active collaboration among interested States parties to the Convention, regional organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, in identifying commendable practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery consistent with chapter V of the Convention;

40. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

41. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness, through, inter alia, media campaigns, regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

42. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (*c*), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to give due consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session;[652]

44. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the United Nations Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting

transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 on the private sector[656] and the adoption on 6 November 2015 of resolution 6/5, the Saint Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption,[657] by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

45. *Recognizes* the important role of business and public-private partnerships in promoting measures to fight corruption, especially measures that support the promotion of ethical business practices in interactions between government, business and other stakeholders;

46. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

47. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

48. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and civil and administrative proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

49. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

50. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

51. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools in the cooperation for asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools, with a view to enhancing early and spontaneous information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

52. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

53. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in a practical guide or other format designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages;

54. *Calls upon* requesting and requested States with practical experience in asset recovery to develop, as appropriate, in cooperation with interested States and providers of technical assistance, non-binding practical guidelines, such as a step-by-step guide, for efficient asset recovery, with a view to enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on the lessons learned from past cases, being mindful to seek to add value by building upon existing work in this area;

55. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

56. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

57. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and provide information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

58. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

59. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and identity-related crime and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

60. *Encourages* Member States to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank;

61. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider, where appropriate, and in accordance with national law, the opportunity of referring to the draft Lausanne guidelines for the efficient recovery of stolen assets in their practice and to continue to exchange practical experiences and consolidate them into a non-binding, step-by-step guide or asset recovery manual, in cooperation with interested States and providers of technical assistance, upon the request of the relevant interested parties;

62. *Notes with appreciation* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcomes their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States;

63. *Also notes with appreciation* the holding of the Anti-Corruption Summit in London on 12 May 2016, at which a number of countries and international organizations committed to accelerating their efforts to effectively address corruption, and invites them to build on the momentum and to continue to implement the commitments they made;

64. *Further notes with appreciation* the outcomes of the Ministerial Meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, held in Paris on 16 March 2016, which launched the fourth evaluation phase of the peer review mechanism and recommended active enforcement of anti-corruption laws;

65. *Welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

66. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, takes note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016,[657] and urges the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical

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[657] See A/71/380, annex.

section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its seventh session.

RESOLUTION 71/209

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/485, para. 24)[658]

71/209. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 69/193 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014, 69/281 of 28 May 2015, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/76 of 9 December 2015, 70/120 of 14 December 2015, 70/174, 70/175, 70/178 and 70/182 of 17 December 2015, 70/291 of 1 July 2016, 70/299 of 29 July 2016 and 70/301 of 9 September 2016,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[659] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[660] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[661] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[662] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[663] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/16 of 26 July 2016 on follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and recalling the importance of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth Congress,[664]

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, at the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

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[658] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

[659] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[660] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[661] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[662] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[663] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[664] Resolution 70/174, annex.

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals and stones in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals and stones as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[665] which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, in which it encouraged coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and called for avoiding duplication,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development should be an integral element of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,[666] in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,[667] and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

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[665] Resolution 70/1.

[666] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[667] Resolution 67/187, annex.

Welcoming the results of the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and of the launch of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Bearing in mind that the return of assets is one of the main objectives and a fundamental principle of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and that the States parties to the Convention are obligated to afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard,

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[668] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by these Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Recognizing also the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hangzhou Summit communiqué,[669] and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks and organizations,

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[670] and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 70/291, and other relevant resolutions in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request,

Recalling the importance of its resolution 70/120 on measures to eliminate international terrorism and of resolution 70/148 of 17 December 2015 on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

Recalling also its resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery,

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[668] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[669] See A/71/380, annex.

[670] Resolution 60/288.

Expressing concern that economic resources, such as oil, oil products, modular refineries and related material, other natural resources and other assets become available to organized criminal and terrorist groups,

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the general progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies, illicit trafficking in wildlife, trafficking in cultural property, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, drug trafficking and terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/170 of 19 December 2016, entitled "Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence", recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,[671]

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, expressing deep concern about gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 68/191 of 18 December 2013 and 70/176 of 17 December 2015 on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, and recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes,

Noting the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[672] as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

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[671] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 7* (E/2014/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[672] Resolution 69/194, annex.

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[673] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[674] and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice,

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolution 70/146 of 17 December 2015, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[675] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,[676] which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

Recalling its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Welcoming the adoption, by its resolution 70/175, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[677] and its resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015,

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, and recalling its resolutions 69/187 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/23 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/23 of 21 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

Welcoming its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

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[673] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[674] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[675] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[676] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

[677] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

Welcoming also the work of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the practical assistance tool aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences[678] through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the implementation of resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013, 69/196 and 70/76 and facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, and the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and to facilitate cooperation in this area, including in countering the financing of terrorism in accordance with resolution 70/177 of 17 December 2015,

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution 70/76,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

Emphasizing that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and in hazardous waste, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions 69/314 of 30 July 2015 and 70/301 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide updated information to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the global status of illicit trafficking in wildlife, including poaching and illegal trade, and on the implementation of resolution 70/301, and to present proposals for possible future action,

Recalling also Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 22/7 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime and 22/8 on promoting technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen national measures and international cooperation against cybercrime, both of 26 April 2013,[679]

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and telecommunications technologies in multiple forms of crime,

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[678] Resolution 69/196, annex.

[679] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/2013/30 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

Concerned also by the serious challenges and threats posed by trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with terrorism and other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[680] the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[681] and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,[682]

Welcoming the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, and the adoption of the outcome document, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem",[683] taking note of the discussion therein, and reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[684] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[685]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 64/293, 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 70/178;[686]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,[664] when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[659] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[660] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[661] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[662] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[663] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 187, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime;

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[680] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[681] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[682] See resolution 67/234 B.

[683] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[684] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[685] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[686] A/71/114.

6. *Recalls* article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[668] and General Assembly resolution 69/197 of 18 December 2014, in which, inter alia, the need for the establishment of a mechanism to review the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto by States parties was reiterated, and underlines that the review of the implementation of the Convention is an ongoing and gradual process and that it is necessary to explore all options regarding the establishment of a mechanism to assist the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

7. *Welcomes with appreciation* the decision of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its eighth session to continue the process of establishing a mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to elaborate specific procedures and rules for the functioning of the mechanism, which shall include the elements specified by the Conference of the Parties, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth session, as well as its decision that the mechanism shall progressively address all the articles of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, in accordance with the agreed clusters of articles and the multi-year workplan;

8. *Welcomes* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[681]

9. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 180, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

10. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while supporting an effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking also into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

13. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

14. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions 70/1 and 70/299;

15. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance with domestic

legislation, of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime, and to strengthen all forms of cooperation to enable the return of illicitly acquired assets in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, as well as identity-related crime, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, trafficking in precious metals and stones, counterfeiting in trademark goods, crimes that affect the environment and illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

17. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement deradicalization programmes and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law;

18. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

19. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolution 70/299;

21. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular

general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities;

22. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

23. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and to the United Nations Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[687] bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

27. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[688] and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;[689]

28. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

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[687] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[688] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[689] See E/CN.15/2015/16.

29. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[690] to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of that Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

31. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is considered, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through that crime, and to consider the smuggling of migrants to be a predicate offence of money-laundering;

32. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[677] as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector;

33. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, and invites Member States to provide the Office with appropriate resources for its mandate;

34. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

35. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

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[690] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

36. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

37. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention, and invites States parties to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/196;

38. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (*b*) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

39. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

40. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and in hazardous waste involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (*b*) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

41. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in precious metals and stones by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in precious metals and stones;

42. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

43. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime and responses to it by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and calls upon Member States to explore specific measures designed to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter effectively criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity theft, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography, in particular child sexual abuse imagery, from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms;

44. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal abuse of information and telecommunications technologies, and to enhance international cooperation in this regard;

45. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and

ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support and improved data collection and analysis;

46. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

47. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

48. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments and data collection and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

49. *Invites* Member States to develop national plans for the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

50. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

51. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals and handbooks developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

52. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

53. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and after the completion of the twenty-sixth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, a high-level debate to observe the twenty-fifth anniversary of the assassination of Judge Giovanni Falcone, focusing on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the Protocols thereto and highlighting emerging trends and challenges in crime prevention and criminal justice and their impact on sustainable development, and to prepare a President's summary of the discussion for transmission to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and to all Member States;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

RESOLUTION 71/210

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/486, para. 11)[691]

71/210. Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session[692] and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[693]

Reaffirming also the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[694] adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, as well as the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted at the high-level segment of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission,[695]

Recalling its resolution 68/196 of 18 December 2013, in which it adopted the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and encouraged Member States, international organizations, international financial institutions, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take into account the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes,

Recalling also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 52/6 of 20 March 2009,[694] 53/6 of 12 March 2010,[696] 54/4 of 25 March 2011,[697] 55/4 of 16 March 2012,[698] 57/1 of 21 March 2014[695] and 58/4 of 17 March 2015,[699]

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[700] and stressing that the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note of the outcome of the international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development,[701] which includes conclusions and recommendations drawn from the field visits, the seminar/workshop and the high-level International Conference, and noting in particular the alternative development projects, as seen in the field visits, focused on enhancing individual and community resilience and recognized as an example of the sufficiency economy philosophy of the King of Thailand,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges and that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production,

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[691] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[692] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[693] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[694] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[695] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[696] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 8* (E/2010/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[697] Ibid., *2011, Supplement No. 8* (E/2011/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[698] Ibid., *2012, Supplement No. 8* (E/2012/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[699] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 8* (E/2015/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[700] Resolution 70/1.

[701] E/CN.7/2016/13, annex.

Expressing concern that the illicit cultivation of drug crops and illicit drug production, manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain major challenges in countering the world drug problem, and recognizing the need to strengthen sustainable crop control strategies that include alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of drug crops, and the need to intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges,

Noting with concern that overall financial support for alternative development projects and programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development projects and programmes, has accounted for only a minor share of official development assistance and has reached only a minor percentage of communities and households involved in illicit drug crop cultivation at the global level,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome of the international seminar/workshop and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai and Bangkok, Thailand, and Shan State, Myanmar, from 19 to 24 November 2015 and hosted by the Government of Thailand, in collaboration with the Government of Germany, the Government of Myanmar and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[701] as an input to continued discussions on and enhanced implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[702] in accordance with national legislation;

2. *Reaffirms*, as highlighted in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, that alternative development, as an integral component of policies and programmes for reducing drug production, is an important, viable and sustainable option for preventing, eliminating or significantly and measurably reducing the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production and manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through tackling poverty and providing livelihood opportunities;

3. *Urges* Member States affected by or at risk of illicit crop cultivation to consider integrating comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, into national development policies and strategies, as appropriate, to address illicit crop cultivation and its related socioeconomic factors, provide sustainable alternative livelihoods and significantly contribute to the building of inclusive and just societies in order to reduce inequality within and among countries;

4. *Urges* Member States, when formulating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development strategies and policies, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development strategies and policies, to take into account the specific needs of the communities and groups affected by the illicit cultivation of crops used for drug production and manufacture, within the broader framework of national policies;

5. *Stresses* that, when designing and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, the focus should be on empowering and encouraging ownership by local communities, including women, children and young people, taking into account their specific needs, and on strengthening local capacities, as ensuring the effective cooperation of all stakeholders in the entire alternative development process is crucial for the success of alternative development;

6. *Also stresses* that comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, as one of the tools available for tackling the world drug problem, increases the State's presence, builds trust between communities and government, strengthens local governance and institutions, promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and, under Sustainable Development Goal 16, includes the promotion of the rule of law;

7. *Encourages* further discussions on the relationship and potential links between alternative development and the promotion of the rule of law by individuals and communities, as well as on the wide range of challenges affecting the livelihoods and well-being of people, in order to further develop measures to address the root causes of such challenges;

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[702] Resolution 68/196, annex.

8. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the proper and coordinated sequencing of development interventions when designing alternative development programmes;

9. *Stresses* that access to productive land and land rights, such as legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, should be promoted and protected in the implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, in a manner that is consistent with domestic law and regulations as well as with the full participation of and in consultation with local communities;

10. *Emphasizes* that the marketability of products stemming from alternative development programmes should be assessed before implementing such programmes and, where applicable, alternative development products should be aimed at creating value-added chains to enable target communities to obtain higher incomes in order to support sustainable livelihoods and substitute the income generated from illicit crop cultivation;

11. *Encourages* the international community, including civil society, the scientific community and academia, to work with affected communities to develop recommendations focusing on specific alternative development strategies that take into account demographic, cultural, social and geographical conditions and include ideas on supporting and promoting new products;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development when designing, implementing and evaluating alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, and calls upon Member States with experience in this area to share outcomes, assessments of implemented projects and lessons learned, thereby contributing to the dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles;

13. *Urges* Member States to sustain political will and a long-term commitment with regard to implementing alternative development programmes and strategies and to continue to engage in awareness programmes and in dialogue and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders;

14. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to increase their rural development support for regions and populations affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of drug crops through long-term and flexible funding, and encourages States, to the extent possible, to remain strongly committed to financing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes;

15. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen intragovernmental coordination when designing and implementing alternative development projects and programmes;

16. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations entities and specialized agencies to further increase their interaction with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to support Member States in effectively implementing alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, with a view to further enhancing coherence and coordination within the United Nations system;

17. *Encourages* development agencies, donors and financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and academia to share information, experiences and best practices, promote research and increase efforts on the promotion of alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development;

18. *Recognizes* that more research is needed to better understand and identify factors contributing to the emergence of illicit crop cultivation and to improve impact assessments of alternative development programmes;

19. *Affirms* that, in addition to estimates of illicit cultivation and other illicit activities related to the world drug problem, indicators related to human development, socioeconomic conditions, rural development and the alleviation of poverty, as well as institutional and environmental indicators, should be used when assessing alternative development programmes in order to ensure that the outcomes are in line with national and international development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that they reflect accountable use of donor funds and truly benefit affected communities;

20. *Calls upon* Member States and other donors to consider providing long-term support to alternative development programmes and projects, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes and projects, that target the illicit cultivation of drug crops, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication, including through enhanced development-oriented approaches that

implement measures for rural development, strengthen local governments and institutions, improve infrastructure, including the provision of public services such as water, energy, health and education in areas acutely impacted by the illicit cultivation of drug crops, promote the participation of local communities, enhance the empowerment of people and strengthen the resilience of communities;

21. *Encourages* Member States to maintain and strengthen international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, as an essential part of successful crop control strategies, in order to increase the positive outcomes of such programmes, especially in areas affected by or at risk of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;

22. *Encourages* Member States with extensive expertise in alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, to continue to share best practices, upon request, promote research to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation and foster and strengthen international cooperation, including cross-continental, interregional, subregional and regional technical cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which includes in some cases preventive alternative development;

23. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 71/211

Adopted at the 65th plenary meeting, on 19 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/486, para. 11)[703]

71/211. International cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Welcoming and reaffirming the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem"[704] in its entirety, reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and aim at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[705] and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[706] and recalling the resolutions adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[707]

Recalling other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 70/182 of 17 December 2015,

Recalling also all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-ninth session,[708]

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[703] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United States of America and Uruguay.

[704] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[705] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[706] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[707] Resolutions S-20/1, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A–E.

[708] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 8* (E/2016/28), chap. I.

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[709] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[710] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[711] and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[712] and noting that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming its commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern about the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and reaffirming its determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking,

Reaffirming its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[713] with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Recognizing that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

Reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in developing an effective and comprehensive approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and reaffirming further the support and appreciation of the General Assembly for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and reaffirming further the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization,

Recognizing the role of the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, among other agencies, within their respective mandates,

Recognizing also that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, plays an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and noting that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation, implementation, and the providing of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and recognizing further the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard,

Reaffirming the determination of Member States to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help to ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity, and reaffirming also the determination of Member States to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse,

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[709] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[710] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[711] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[712] Resolution 70/1.

[713] Resolution 217 A (III).

Reaffirming also the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognizing the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

Recognizing that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to reinforce national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges,

Recognizing also, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity,

Expressing deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon,

Noting with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlighting the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, and rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies,

Recognizing that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation,

Welcoming continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels,

Stressing the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the identification, reporting of and response to new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Noting with grave concern the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Noting with grave concern also the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes, *Expressing concern* that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production can cause serious harm to the environment, including deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, the loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways and the release of greenhouse gases,

Reaffirming that alternative development policies are an important component in enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and that they play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation,

Reaffirming also the commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

Reaffirming further the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem, and calling for enhancing assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the operational recommendations contained in the annex to resolution S-30/1 of 19 April 2016,

Recognizing that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law,

Encouraging Member States to develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, to integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations so as to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and to encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model,

Recalling the adoption, by its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and its decision, in resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to convene a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem that would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

1. *Welcomes* the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016, at which the Assembly reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[705] including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, takes note of the discussions held during the session, and welcomes and reaffirms in its entirety the outcome document entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem";[704]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* Member States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;[706]

3. *Reaffirms* that addressing and countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other

provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[713] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[714] on human rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

5. *Encourages* Member States to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

6. *Reiterates its commitment* to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole and to facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

7. *Also reiterates its commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

8. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

9. *Recognizes* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirms the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[711]

10. *Urges* Member States to address the relevant socioeconomic factors that relate to the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach that incorporates drug policies in a broader socioeconomic and development agenda, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions;

11. *Invites* Member States to consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of illicit cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

12. *Encourages* the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end encourages Member States to consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

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[714] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

13. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and the need to consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

14. *Reiterates its call* to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[715]

15. *Urges* Member States to increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, to develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and to enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

16. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing cooperation among public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

17. *Also invites* Member States to promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, to promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, and to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

18. *Recognizes* drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature, with social causes and consequences, that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and also recognizes the need to strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

19. *Encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists, such as naloxone, to reduce drug-related mortality;

20. *Invites* Member States to promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

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[715] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

22. *Encourages* Member States to involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other co-dependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

23. *Also encourages* Member States to consider alternatives to incarceration, conviction and punishment where appropriate and in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, noting that, in appropriate cases of a minor nature, States may provide, as alternatives to conviction or punishment, measures such as education, rehabilitation or social reintegration, as well as, when the offender has a drug abuse disorder, treatment and aftercare, as well as support for recovery;

24. *Encourages* the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);[716]

25. *Also encourages* the consideration of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[717]

26. *Invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices in order to facilitate collaboration between justice and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

27. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the knowledge of policymakers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourages the cooperation of Member States with, and cooperation among, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

28. *Urges* Member States to ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and to ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

29. *Encourages* Member States to promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities so as to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance access to treatment for drug use disorders for those who are incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela

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[716] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[717] Resolution 65/229, annex.

Rules),[718] implement, where appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

31. *Encourages* Member States to promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences, whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

32. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

33. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to marginalization, crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

34. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to counter money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve legal cooperation, including judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

35. *Underlines* the need to strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and to strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

36. *Notes* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

37. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled;

38. *Reiterates* the strong commitment of Member States to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing the diversion and abuse of and trafficking in such substances;

39. *Recognizes* the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, and the need to place appropriate focus within the respective jurisdictions of Member States on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

40. *Welcomes* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 June 2016;[719]

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[718] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[719] Resolution 70/266, annex.

41. *Invites* relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, as well as consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

42. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle the global challenges related to the world drug problem in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

43. *Takes note with appreciation* of the 2015 report of the International Narcotics Control Board[720] and the supplementary reports thereto, including the report entitled "Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes — Indispensable, adequately available and not unduly restricted",[721] which highlights the urgent need to ensure that substances under control are available for medical and scientific needs, provides an assessment of their availability and identifies impediments to access that Member States must work to overcome;

44. *Invites* Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account the publication entitled "Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines", and, for that purpose, to consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

45. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

46. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(*a*) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

(*b*) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative public health and social impacts of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

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[720] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2015/1.

[721] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1.

47. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among other things, the promotion of the exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States;

48. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and to promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

49. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

50. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

51. *Also encourages* Member States to establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry*, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between Governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

52. *Calls upon* Member States to commit to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and to consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or to make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

53. *Invites* Member States to support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

54. *Also invites* Member States to promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

55. *Calls upon* Member States to continue efforts to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to the health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

56. *Invites* Member States to target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and

institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

57. *Encourages* the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support for initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, and encourages Member States to develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and to consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

58. *Expresses concern* that illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and recognizes the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need for intensifying joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better-coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

59. *Invites* Member States to consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

60. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;[illegible]

61. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourages States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

62. *Urges* Member States to promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard;

[illegible] Resolution 68/196, annex.

63. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[723]

64. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, and notes, inter alia, the holding of the Second International Conference on Alternative Development in Thailand from 19 to 24 November 2015;

65. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of resolution 2016/19 on 26 July 2016, entitled "Promoting the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development", and encourages Member States, international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take due account of the Guiding Principles when designing and implementing alternative development, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate;

66. *Urges* Member States to increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

67. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, so as to assist Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

68. *Calls upon* Member States to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

69. *Invites* Member States to enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through the detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and to identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

70. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including, and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes, such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

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[723] Resolution 61/295, annex.

71. *Also encourages* Member States to use existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

72. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

73. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering the world drug problem;

74. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

75. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including enhancing the analytical work of laboratories, by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, by supporting requesting States to enhance or develop new national indicators and instruments;

76. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

77. *Encourages* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

78. *Invites* Member States to consider the need to review the set of national drug policy metrics and tools for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable, comprehensive and comparable data to measure the effectiveness of programmes to address all relevant aspects of the world drug problem, including, as appropriate, as related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[712]

79. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard;

80. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts in supporting States to establish, upon request, the operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and in facilitating the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

81. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

82. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

83. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

84. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

85. *Calls upon* Member States to resolve to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, underscores the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, and notes the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes;

86. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[709] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[710] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[724] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[725]

87. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

88. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-ninth session[708] and the *World Drug Report 2016*;

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[724] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[725] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

89. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact[726] and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange, with a view to countering drug trafficking, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

90. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and reiterates the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

91. *Encourages* the continued contribution of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Brussels from 22 to 25 June 2015, Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 September 2016, Santiago from 3 to 7 October 2016, Colombo from 24 to 27 October 2016 and Riyadh from 20 to 24 November 2016;

92. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

93. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

94. *Calls upon* Member States to take the steps necessary to implement the operational recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of the recommendations;

95. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations bodies and specialized agencies to identify operational recommendations in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly that fall within their area of specialization and to commence implementing the recommendations made in the outcome document that are within their existing mandates, in collaboration and cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, keeping the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of programmes and progress made to achieve goals set out in the outcome document, and requests the Office to include, within its existing reporting obligations, a chapter regarding collaboration and coordination across the United Nations system in the global efforts to implement the recommendations adopted at the thirtieth special session;

96. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes;

97. *Welcomes* the commencement of the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session through the intersessional process of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encourages the Commission to continue working on and supporting Member States in the implementation and sharing of best practices corresponding to the seven thematic areas of the outcome document, and invites the Commission to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of the

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[726] See S/2003/641, annex.

outcome document, including by ensuring that the Commission is informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society;

98. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to include in its report to the Economic and Social Council a section on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly;

99. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[727] and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[727] A/71/316.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee[*]

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[*] Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chair or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

RESOLUTION 71/2

Adopted at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 3 October 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/414, para. 6)

71/2. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its seventy-sixth session,[1]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia shall be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its seventy-first session.

RESOLUTION 71/6

Adopted at the 35th plenary meeting, on 27 October 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/545, para. 6)

71/6. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/235 of 22 December 2006, 62/224 of 22 December 2007, 63/247 of 24 December 2008, 64/229 of 22 December 2009, 65/244 of 24 December 2010, 66/8 of 11 November 2011, 67/236 of 24 December 2012, 68/20 of 4 December 2013, 69/17 of 18 November 2014 and 70/8 of 13 November 2015,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/71/11).

Recalling further the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[2] by which the relevant programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fifty-sixth session,[3] the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018–2019: part one: plan outline[4] and part two: biennial programme plan[5] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017[6] and on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014–2015,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[2]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2014–2015, contained in chapter II, section A, of its report on the work of its fifty-sixth session,[3] on the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, contained in chapter II, section B (i), and on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018–2019, contained in chapter II, section B (ii);

4. *Decides* that the priorities of the United Nations for the period 2018–2019 shall be the following:

(*a*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*b*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

5. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

6. *Also stresses* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 on the basis of the above priorities and the strategic framework as adopted in the present resolution;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on evaluation, contained in chapter II, section C, of its report, on the annual overview report of the United Nations

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[2] ST/SGB/2016/6.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/71/16).

[4] A/71/6 (Part one).

[5] A/71/6 (Prog. 1, 2 and Corr.1, 3 and Corr.1–3, 4–5, 6 and Corr.1 and 2, 7–12, 13 and Corr.1, 14–24, 25/Rev.1, 26, 27 and Corr.1 and 28).

[6] A/71/85.

[7] A/71/75.

System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2015, contained in chapter III, section A, and on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, contained in chapter III, section B, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations;

9. *Decides* not to take a decision on the content of part one: plan outline of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018–2019;[4]

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, when preparing future plan outlines, that the proposed strategic frameworks take fully into account the guidelines provided by the General Assembly in its resolutions 59/275, 61/235, 62/224, 63/247 and subsequent relevant resolutions;

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the Secretary-General to strictly adhere to the concepts, terms and mandates approved in the strategic frameworks, while preparing the related programme performance reports;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing to improve the logical framework, and in this regard encourages programme managers to further improve the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievement in order to enable better evaluation of results, bearing in mind the importance of defining the indicators in a way that ensures their clear measurability.

RESOLUTION 71/7

Adopted at the 35th plenary meeting, on 27 October 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/548, para. 6)

71/7. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

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Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 59/272 of 23 December 2004, 60/259 of 8 May 2006, 63/265 of 24 December 2008, 64/232 of 22 December 2009, 64/263 of 29 March 2010, 65/250 of 24 December 2010, 66/236 of 24 December 2011, 67/258 of 12 April 2013, 68/21 of 4 December 2013, 69/252 of 29 December 2014 and 70/111 of 14 December 2015,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016,[5]

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;

2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;

4. *Recalls* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat shall exercise operational independence relating to the performance of its internal oversight functions, under the authority of the Secretary-General, in accordance with the relevant resolutions;

5. *Reaffirms* that the Office is an internal body under the authority of the Secretary-General and that, as such, it shall comply with all relevant regulations, rules, policies and procedures of the United Nations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the annual reports of the Office continue to include a brief description of any impairment of its independence;

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[5] A/71/337 (Part I) and Add.1/Rev.1.

7. *Reaffirms* the role of the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit as external oversight bodies, and in this regard affirms that any external review, audit, inspection, monitoring, evaluation or investigation of the Office can be undertaken only by such bodies or those mandated to do so by the General Assembly;

8. *Also reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit shall continue to be provided with copies of all reports produced by the Office, requests that those reports be made available within one month of their finalization, and emphasizes the need for comments by the Board and the Unit, as appropriate;

9. *Encourages* United Nations internal and external oversight bodies to further enhance the level of cooperation with one another, such as through joint work-planning sessions, without prejudice to the independence of each;

10. *Recognizes* the important roles of the oversight bodies in contributing to improvements in the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the Organization;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote effective coordination and collaboration with regard to the audit, evaluation and investigation functions of the Office in order to ensure an integrated approach to its oversight function, bearing in mind the operational independence of the Office;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Office;[8]

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, including those of a cross-cutting nature, are brought to the attention of relevant managers and that the Office also takes those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;

15. *Notes* the role of the Management Committee in monitoring closely the implementation of the recommendations of oversight bodies, and stresses the importance of follow-up with programme managers to ensure the full implementation of those recommendations in a prompt and timely manner;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the full implementation of the accepted recommendations of the Office, including those relating to cost avoidance, recovery of overpayments, efficiency gains and other improvements, in a prompt and timely manner, and to provide detailed justifications in cases in which recommendations of the Office are not accepted;

17. *Recognizes* the efforts undertaken by the Organization to develop an anti-fraud and anti-corruption framework aimed at preventing, detecting, deterring and addressing fraud and corruption, and encourages the Office to continue its role in strengthening the internal control system to effectively mitigate relevant risks;

18. *Stresses* the need for the Office to increase emphasis on investigations involving cases of fraud, and recognizes its role in supporting the Organization to assess, analyse and act upon all fraud risks;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to fill the remaining vacant posts, particularly in the Investigations Division and in the field, in accordance with the relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations;

II

Activities of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Recalling its resolutions 61/275 of 29 June 2007, 64/263, section II of its resolution 66/236, section II of its resolution 67/258, section II of its resolution 68/21, section II of its resolution 69/252 and section II of its resolution 70/111,

Having considered the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on its activities for the period from 1 August 2015 to 31 July 2016,[9]

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[9] A/71/295.

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

2. *Reaffirms* the terms of reference of the Committee, as contained in the annex to resolution 61/275;

3. *Endorses* the observations, comments and recommendations contained in paragraphs 19, 22, 27, 30, 33, 39, 40, 45, 50, 51, 56, 57, 62, 69, 71, 75, 78, 82, 85, 88, 91, 94, 96, 99 and 102 of the report of the Committee.

RESOLUTION 71/88

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 5 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/638, para. 6)

71/88. Implementation of the new common system compensation package in the United Nations Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/244 of 23 December 2015,

Having considered the notes by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the new common system compensation package in the United Nations Secretariat[10] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[11]

1. *Takes note* of the notes by the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Expresses serious concern* that the Secretary-General failed to provide Member States with timely information on possible delays in, and resource requirements for, the implementation of elements of the new compensation package for staff in the Professional and higher categories as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/244;

3. *Decides* that the Secretary-General, in implementing the new common system compensation package, absorb all additional requirements from within existing resources, as described in the note by the Secretary-General.[12]

RESOLUTION 71/261

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/702, para. 7)

71/261. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/212 B of 31 March 1998 and its decision 57/573 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also its resolutions 70/238 A of 23 December 2015, 70/238 B of 1 April 2016 and 70/238 C of 17 June 2016,

Having considered, for the period ended 31 December 2015, the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations,[13] the International Trade Centre,[14] the

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[10] A/70/896 and Corr.1 and A/C.5/71/CRP.1.

[11] A/70/961.

[12] A/C.5/71/CRP.1.

[13] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 5*, vol. I (A/71/5 (Vol. I)).

[14] Ibid., vol. III (A/71/5 (Vol. III)).

United Nations University,[15] the capital master plan,[16] the United Nations Development Programme,[17] the United Nations Capital Development Fund,[18] the United Nations Children's Fund,[19] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[20] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[21] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[22] the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,[23] the United Nations Population Fund,[24] the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[25] the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[26] the United Nations Office for Project Services,[27] the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),[28] the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[29] the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[30] the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals[31] and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[32] the fifth annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system,[33] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the concise summary of the principal findings and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors for the annual financial period 2015,[34] the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the capital master plan,[35] on the United Nations[36] and on the United Nations funds and programmes[37] for the year ended 31 December 2015, the report of the Secretary of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2015 on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[38] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[39]

1. *Takes note* of the audit opinions and findings, and endorses the recommendations, contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors;[15–33]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[39]

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[15] Ibid., vol. IV (A/71/5 (Vol. IV)).

[16] Ibid., vol. V (A/71/5 (Vol. V)).

[17] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* (A/71/5/Add.1).

[18] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/71/5/Add.2).

[19] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* (A/71/5/Add.3).

[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/71/5/Add.4).

[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/71/5/Add.5).

[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* (A/71/5/Add.6).

[23] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/71/5/Add.7).

[24] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* (A/71/5/Add.8).

[25] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/71/5/Add.9).

[26] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/71/5/Add.10).

[27] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/71/5/Add.11).

[28] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/71/5/Add.12).

[29] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5M* (A/71/5/Add.13).

[30] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5N* (A/71/5/Add.14).

[31] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5O* (A/71/5/Add.15).

[32] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5P* (A/71/5/Add.16).

[33] A/71/180.

[34] A/71/558.

[35] A/71/331.

[36] A/71/331/Add.2.

[37] A/71/331/Add.1 (Parts I and II).

[38] A/71/397.

[39] A/71/669.

3. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audits;

4. *Decides* to consider further the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda,[29] the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[30] and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals[31] under the respective agenda items relating to the Tribunals and the Mechanism;

5. *Also decides* to consider further the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[32] under the agenda item relating to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

6. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the continued high quality of its reports and the streamlined format thereof;

7. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports for the year ended 31 December 2015 on the United Nations[36] and on the United Nations funds and programmes;[37]

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee in a prompt and timely manner, to continue to hold programme managers accountable for the non-implementation of recommendations and to effectively address the root causes of the problems highlighted by the Board;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented that are two or more years old;

10. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable.

RESOLUTION 71/262

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/706, para. 6)

71/262. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolution 70/9 of 13 November2015,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on multilingualism, and reaffirming the provisions relating to conference services thereon, in particular resolution 69/324 of 11 September 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2016[40] and the relevant report of the Secretary-General,[41]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[42]

Reaffirming the role of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in administrative and budgetary matters,

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[40] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/71/32).

[41] A/71/116.

[42] A/71/549.

Recalling its resolution 14 (I) of 13 February 1946 and the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

I

Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2016;[40]

2. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2017, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[41] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2017 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 61/236 of 22 December 2006, 62/225 of 22 December 2007, 63/248 of 24 December 2008, 64/230 of 22 December 2009, 65/245 of 24 December 2010, 66/233 of 24 December 2011, 67/237 of 24 December 2012 and 68/251 of 27 December 2013 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

5. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly regarding the pattern of conferences, including resolution 69/250 of 29 December 2014 concerning Yom Kippur, the Day of Vesak, Diwali, Gurpurab and Orthodox Christmas, and requests all relevant intergovernmental bodies to continue to observe the applicable decisions when planning their meetings;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

7. *Invites* Member States to include in new legislative mandates adequate information on the modalities for the organization of conferences or meetings;

8. *Recalls* rule 153 of its rules of procedure, and, for resolutions involving expenditure, requests the Secretary-General to include the modalities of conferences, taking into account the trends of similar meetings, with a view to mobilizing conference services and documentation in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to address the issue of duplications and redundancies in conference servicing, and notes in this regard that the Economic and Social Council decided, in its resolution 2013/13 of 22 July 2013, to consider at a later date the necessity of reviewing its provisional biennial calendar of conferences and meetings in the light of the ongoing intergovernmental consultations on the further strengthening of the Council;

II

Utilization of conference-servicing resources

10. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to meetings of Member States;

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[41] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/71/32), annex II.

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;[44]

12. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

13. *Notes* that the overall utilization factor for all calendar bodies at the four main duty stations in 2015 was 80 per cent, as it was in 2014, as compared with 78 per cent in 2013, and thus met the established benchmark of 80 per cent;

14. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to consult those bodies that have consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark of their allocated resources for the past six years, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

15. *Urges* the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources to work more closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat and to consider changes to their programmes of work, as appropriate, including adjustments based on previous patterns of recurring agenda items, with a view to making improvements in their utilization factors;

16. *Urges* those intergovernmental bodies whose average utilization factor has for the past six years been below the benchmark of 80 per cent to take that factor into account when planning their future sessions in order to achieve that benchmark;

17. *Reiterates its request* to intergovernmental bodies to review their meeting entitlements and to plan and adjust their programmes of work on the basis of their actual utilization of conference-servicing resources in order to improve their efficient use of conference services;

18. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the utilization factor of the bodies owing to the amount of time lost, and invites the secretariats and bureaux of bodies to pay adequate attention to avoiding late starts and unplanned early endings;

19. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

20. *Also welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to increase the utilization rates of conference-servicing resources, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to enhance the efficiency of conference servicing and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;

22. *Notes* that for meetings held in New York of bodies entitled to meet "as required", 97 per cent of requests for interpretation were met in 2015, as compared with 97 per cent in 2014 and 98 per cent in 2013, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to impress upon such bodies the need to continue to improve the utilization of the conference services provided and to report on the provision of conference services to those bodies through the Committee on Conferences;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met, and requests the Secretariat to inform the requesters as early as possible about the availability of conference services, including interpretation, as well as about any changes that might occur before the holding of meetings;

24. *Notes* that the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations was 83 per cent in 2015, as compared with

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[44] ST/AI/416.

85 per cent in 2014 and 93 per cent in 2013, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to employ innovative means to address the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

25. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

26. *Welcomes* the efforts of all users of conference services to inform the Secretariat as early as possible of any cancellation of service requests so as to allow for such services to be smoothly redeployed to other meetings;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 70/9, paragraph 23, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations bodies were held in Nairobi in 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session through the Committee on Conferences;

28. *Notes* the ongoing efforts aimed at improving the conference facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to ensure that the improvement of the facilities, in particular Africa Hall, is completed in a timely manner;

29. *Recognizes* the improvement in the rate of utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore, including with partners such as the African Union, additional means to increase the utilization of the conference centre and to report thereon, including on the impact of the initiatives of the Commission, to the General Assembly;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage the heads of entities of the United Nations system to use as a matter of priority, when applicable, the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa to ensure greater utilization of the conference facilities;

31. *Recognizes* the proactive efforts of the Secretary-General to identify ways to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in conference services;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at improving conference servicing at the four main duty stations, including through addressing or eliminating possible duplication, overlap and redundancy, and identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-saving measures, without compromising quality or affecting the provision of services, and to report annually on the progress made in this regard;

33. *Re-emphasizes* the need to continue to improve all conference facilities, including the videoconferencing infrastructure, at all four main duty stations and at the regional commissions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report thereon no later than at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly;

34. *Welcomes* the measures taken to ensure access to and use of conference services and conference facilities for persons with disabilities, including the establishment of the Accessibility Centre, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue further efforts in this regard and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to address issues related to the accessibility of conference facilities as a matter of priority and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

36. *Welcomes* the integrated global management rule as an efficient approach, where feasible, to servicing meetings away from duty stations, in this regard requests the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to realize further savings by rigorously applying the integrated global management rule to applicable meetings, without jeopardizing the quality of services, and to report thereon to the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session in 2017, and also requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the financial savings achieved through the implementation of the integrated global management projects;

III

Leveraging technology and measuring the quality of conference services

37. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General in the context of the integrated global management initiative to establish and implement at the four main duty stations common performance indicators and single information technology systems (such as gData, gDoc, gMeets and gText), and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

38. *Takes note* of the progress made in the development and implementation of the conference management software gData, gDoc, gMeets and gText, and requests the Secretary-General to include all relevant information on their operation, maintenance and harmonization with existing systems, as appropriate, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

39. *Recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,[45] and requests the Secretary-General to complete internal reviews concerning accountability mechanisms and the clear delineation of responsibility between the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Directors-General of the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna for conference management policies, operations and resource utilization, requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, and in this regard recalls section III, paragraph 15, of its resolution 66/233, section III, paragraph 2, of its resolution 67/237, paragraph 38 of its resolution 68/251, paragraph 48 of its resolution 69/250 and paragraph 37 of its resolution 70/9;

40. *Notes* the initiatives undertaken in the context of integrated global management aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring the equal treatment of conference-servicing staff, as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

41. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

43. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations, to seek a larger rate of response to surveys on quality and to report regularly to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

44. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, taking into consideration comments and complaints raised by Member States either in writing or during meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his exploration of innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and Chairs and Secretaries of committees on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee on Conferences;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation of the quality of the conference services provided by the Secretariat through meetings held at least once a year, but not exceeding twice a year, guaranteeing that Member States are able to present their evaluations and seek information equally in any of the six official languages of the United Nations on any conference-related or language-specific matter;

46. *Acknowledges* that the concept of integrated global management has been fully mainstreamed into all areas of the conference services across the four main conference-servicing duty stations, and requests the Secretary-

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[45] A/70/122.

General to keep the General Assembly and its Committee on Conferences apprised of progress made in ensuring integrated global management and to provide accurate and up-to-date information on new initiatives falling under the purview of the Committee;

IV

Matters related to documentation and publications

47. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

48. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on the evolution of the working methods, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization with a view to preserving or enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;

49. *Emphasizes* the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to ensure full parity among the six official languages in accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/324 and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

50. *Recalls* paragraph 69 of its resolution 69/250, welcomes the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management as the Coordinator for Multilingualism, responsible for the overall implementation of multilingualism Secretariat-wide, and emphasizes the need for the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to inform the public about the importance of this principle;

51. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;

52. *Notes with concern* the recurring late issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee, recalls paragraph 29 of its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to take immediate actions for its effective implementation, taking into account the responsibilities of all stakeholders involved, and to report thereon in the context of his next report on the pattern of conferences;

53. *Recalls* paragraph 69 of its resolution 69/250, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session detailed terms of reference for the Coordinator for Multilingualism containing, inter alia, key responsibilities, working modalities, tasks, priorities, a programme of work, reporting lines and anticipated support, in full compliance with relevant provisions of Assembly resolutions;

54. *Reaffirms* its decision, in section IV of its resolution 64/230, that all reports adopted by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner before their consideration by the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/117 A of 10 December 1981, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998 and 59/265, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the support necessary to that effect and to report to the Assembly thereon at its seventy-second session;

55. *Recalls* section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222, and reiterates with concern its request that the Secretary-General ensure strict respect for the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all six official languages as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website;

56. *Stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

57. *Reiterates* the importance of the timely issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

58. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretariat, in particular the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, regarding the timely availability of pre-session documentation for the Fifth Committee in the six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages continued efforts by all stakeholders in this regard;

59. *Takes note* of the work done by the interdepartmental task force on documentation chaired by the Department in positively addressing the problem of issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee;

60. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the task force to shepherd the submission of documents by the author departments of the Secretariat;

61. *Encourages* the Chairs of the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to promote cooperation between the two bodies in the sphere of documentation;

62. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided by the Secretariat to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

63. *Also notes* that the effects of workload-sharing in the context of global document management remain minimal, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways to promote workload-sharing among the four main duty stations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

64. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

65. *Also emphasizes* the importance of enhancing accountability within the Secretariat for the timely production and delivery of documents by ensuring that managers are fully informed of their responsibilities;

66. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the senior managers' compacts the new standard managerial indicator related to the timely issuance of official documentation to intergovernmental bodies and General Assembly committees and to report thereon in future progress reports on accountability;

67. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the relevant sections of future budget proposals, under executive direction and management, an expected accomplishment of the Secretariat related to the timely submission of documentation needed for meetings of relevant intergovernmental bodies;

68. *Notes with satisfaction* that 99 per cent of the documents submitted on time and within the word limit were processed within four weeks by the Department at Headquarters, and stresses the importance of all the duty stations taking measures to reach their targets in this regard;

69. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

70. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(*a*) A summary of the report;

(*b*) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(*c*) Relevant background information;

71. *Reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs, including the Committee on Conferences, by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

72. *Notes with concern* that only 72 per cent of the author departments reached the compliance rate of 90 per cent in the timely submission of their reports to the Department, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General enforce the slotting system more rigorously through a dedicated focus, such as the interdepartmental task force on documentation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

73. *Urges* author departments to fully adhere to deadlines in meeting the goal of 90 per cent submission compliance, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that documents submitted late do not adversely affect the issuance of documents submitted on time and in compliance with set guidelines;

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on concrete measures taken by author departments and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to improve the predictability of document delivery and ensure accountability for the meeting of deadlines in order to ensure the timely issuance of documentation;

75. *Reiterates its request* in paragraph 80 of its resolution 70/9 that the Secretary-General provide information on the waiver process for documents that are submitted over the word limit;

76. *Emphasizes* the role of Member States and their intergovernmental bodies in determining the policies on conference management;

77. *Stresses* that proposals to change such policies are to be approved by Member States in their relevant intergovernmental bodies;

78. *Notes* that the Official Document System is the official digital repository of the United Nations, and welcomes its modernization and its accessibility in all six official languages of the United Nations;

79. *Notes with encouragement* the ongoing efforts related to the technological advancement aimed at improving the accessibility of the Official Document System, including the introduction of a portable Official Document System, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

80. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at improving the deployment of technological tools and facilities in conference servicing with a view to facilitating the decision-making process by intergovernmental bodies;

81. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to upload all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that these archives will also be available to Member States and the general public;

82. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take all measures necessary to ensure that the digitization of key documents in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and in the main duty stations is completed in a timely manner, as appropriate;

83. *Recalls* paragraph 86 of its resolution 70/9, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Department of Public Information with presenting a proposal for the digitization of important older United Nations documents at all four main duty stations for consideration by the General Assembly through the Committee on Information no later than at the main part of its seventy-second session, outlining, inter alia, the definition of important older United Nations documents, as well as the scope and estimated quantity, cost and time frame;

84. *Expresses concern* that the anticipated lengthy digitization project may jeopardize the retention of historical knowledge and information in view of the delicate state and risk of breakage of many of the related documents;

85. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek additional voluntary contributions for the digitization of important older United Nations documents, including by broadening the donor base, and to report thereon in the context of the report requested in paragraph 83 above;

86. *Recalls* paragraph 104 of its resolution 69/250, notes the increased use of digital recordings by other intergovernmental bodies, including the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly in this regard;

87. *Stresses* that verbatim and summary records remain the only official records of the meetings of United Nations bodies;

88. *Reiterates* paragraph 105 of its resolution 69/250;

89. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 49/221 B of 23 December 1994, and stresses that the timely issuance of verbatim records constitutes an important part of the services provided to Member States;

V

Matters related to language services

90. *Requests* the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;

91. *Underlines* that the translation of official documents of the Organization must be provided in all required languages and in due time, in full compliance with the rules of procedure of the respective legislative bodies;

92. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

93. *Notes* that the pool of language professionals at duty stations is uneven in terms of language combinations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop recruitment, subcontracting and outreach policies that take full account of these imbalances and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

94. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving the maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

95. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure equal treatment of all six official languages and equal quality of service for Member States, while fully respecting the specificities of each official language and different levels of benefit from information technology advances for different languages, including by addressing workload inequities arising from staffing structures and specificities of language, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

96. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

97. *Notes* the development of an experimental statistical machine translation system (Tapta4UN) to accelerate translation services for some categories of documents, and requests the Secretary-General to report on updates, including cost-benefit analysis and quality preservation and control, about this system to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, through the Committee on Conferences;

98. *Recalls* section VII of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies takes into account the needs of language staff in order to continue to ensure that the services provided to Member States meet the highest standard of quality;

99. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to maintain and update the global terminology portal in order to ensure its availability to United Nations staff, Member States and the general public with a view to achieving harmonization of the terminology used at all United Nations duty stations;

100. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to continue to invite the heads of participating funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to consider using official United Nations terminology and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

101. *Reaffirms* paragraph 98 of its resolution 70/9, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, including through the use of international or local contracts, as appropriate, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

102. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at decreasing the vacancy rates for language professionals at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

103. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to fill vacancies in the language services, in particular in the translation services, in a timely manner and in full compliance with relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions governing recruitment for language staff, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-second session;

104. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance in order to fill current and future vacancies in the language services in a timely manner and to inform the General Assembly at its future sessions of efforts in this regard;

105. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to enhance access to competitive examinations for applicants in all regions by bringing, to the extent possible, examination sites closer to their locations in order to allow the greatest number of potentially qualified candidates to participate in them, and to report to the General Assembly at its future sessions on progress made in this regard;

106. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the accuracy of translation;

107. *Reiterates* paragraph 8 of the annex to its resolution 2 (I) of 1 February 1946 on the rules of procedure concerning languages, whereby all resolutions and other important documents shall be made available in the official languages and, upon the request of any representative, any other document shall be made available in any or all of the official languages;

108. *Stresses* the need to ensure the highest possible quality of contractual and in-house translation, and requests the Secretary-General to report on measures to be taken in this regard;

109. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation, with due consideration of the principle of equal grade for equal work;

110. *Requests* the Secretary-General to apply common standards for the quality control of documents processed by external translators in all four duty stations in order to ensure high-quality translations in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its future sessions;

111. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual and in-house translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of staff needed to carry out this function, are shared among duty stations and regional commissions, as appropriate;

112. *Notes* that the Secretary-General has established globally standardized performance indicators and costing models aimed at a more cost-effective strategy for the in-house processing of documents;

113. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address, among other things, the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists, in order to meet the needs in the six official languages of the United Nations;

114. *Notes* the need for energetic measures to avoid a disruptive shortage of applicants and a high turnover rate in the language career fields, particularly where rare language combinations are involved, and requests the Secretary-General to use appropriate means to improve the internship programme, including through partnerships with organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations;

115. *Welcomes* the existing memorandums of understanding between the Organization and 23 universities as a way to strengthen the training of language professionals in order to improve the recruitment of qualified language staff, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to assess the appropriate number of memorandums of understanding in order to fulfil the needs of the Organization;

116. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make further concerted efforts to promote outreach programmes, such as traineeships and internships, and to introduce innovative methods to increase awareness of the programmes, including through partnerships with Member States, relevant international organizations and language institutions in all regions, in particular to close the wide gap of qualified candidates from Africa and from the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

117. *Notes* that the "African project" has the aim of establishing postgraduate university programmes in translation, conference interpreting and public service interpreting through centres of excellence on the African continent, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the achievements of this project;

118. *Also notes* the difficulties in identifying and retaining qualified language professionals and the need to replenish the pool of language experts at the main duty stations, particularly New York and Nairobi, in order to prevent further negative impact on the capacity of the Secretariat to provide services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

119. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretary-General to raise awareness among all Member States and the general public of career opportunities in conference services, including through the increased use of social media;

120. *Notes* the update provided by the Secretary-General on the pilot project related to the outposting to Vienna of translators from the French Translation Service in New York, and requests the Secretary-General to provide to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session further updates on this matter, including on the quality of services, a cost-benefit analysis, information on workload-sharing and lessons learned;

121. *Notes with appreciation* the positive experience with language traineeships in training young professionals and in attracting them to the United Nations, while enhancing the pool of qualified language professionals in language combinations that are critical for succession-planning purposes, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

122. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and strengthen his initiatives related to training and replenishing the language capacity of the Organization, including through the outreach programmes, in order to ensure sufficient capacity to address the interpretation and translation requirements of the Organization;

123. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to liaise with permanent missions to identify outreach opportunities with universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located worldwide in order to ensure the continued availability of high-quality professional language services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

124. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and expand the list of universities having memorandums of understanding with the United Nations, ensuring the inclusion of universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located in all geographical regions, whenever possible;

125. *Requests* the Secretary-General to refrain from making any change of a substantive nature to agreed texts of both draft and adopted resolutions and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

126. *Recalls* section IV of its resolution 69/274 A, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the working conditions of interpreters under review.

RESOLUTION 71/263

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/638/Add.1, para. 6)

71/263. Human resources management

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 8, 97, 100 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/220 A of 21 December 1987, 49/222 A and B of 23 December 1994 and 20 July 1995, 51/226 of 3 April 1997, 52/219 of 22 December 1997, 52/252 of 8 September 1998, 53/221 of 7 April 1999, 55/258 of 14 June 2001, 57/305 of 15 April 2003, 58/285 of 8 April 2004, 58/296 of 18 June 2004, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/287 of 13 April 2005, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/238 of 23 December 2005, 60/254 of 8 May 2006, 60/260 of 8 May 2006, 61/244 of 22 December 2006, 61/276, section VIII, of 29 June 2007, 62/238, section XXI, of 22 December 2007, 62/248 of 3 April 2008, 63/250 of 24 December 2008, 63/271 of 7 April 2009, 65/247 of 24 December 2010, 66/234 of 24 December 2011, 67/255 of 12 April 2013, 68/252 of 27 December 2013, 68/265 of 9 April 2014, 70/244 of 23 December 2015 and 70/286 of 17 June 2016, its decision 70/553 B of 1 April 2016 and its other relevant resolutions and decisions, *Having considered* the relevant reports of the Secretary-General on human resources management submitted to the General Assembly[46] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[47]

Having also considered the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on succession planning in the United Nations system organizations[48] and on the use of non-staff personnel and related contractual modalities in the United Nations system organizations,[49] as well as the comments of the Secretary-General and of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[50]

1. *Reaffirms* that the staff of the United Nations is an invaluable asset of the Organization, and commends its contribution to furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

2. *Pays tribute* to the memory of all staff members who have lost their lives in the service of the Organization;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[47] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

I

Human resources management reform

4. *Emphasizes* the fundamental importance of human resources management reform in the United Nations as a contribution to the enhancement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the United Nations and of the international civil service, and reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of this reform;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to modernize, streamline and integrate the Organization's human resources management structures and functions, taking into account expected benefits, efficiencies and lessons learned from the implementation of previous reforms, and to present detailed proposals for the consideration of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

6. *Underlines* the need for a comprehensive and robust workforce-planning system as a key component of human resources management, acknowledges the progress made, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to develop a comprehensive and effective workforce- and succession-planning proposal and to report thereon at the seventy-third session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the ongoing human resources management reforms and business transformation projects, to continue to ensure the equal treatment of candidates with equivalent educational backgrounds during the recruitment process, taking fully into account the fact that Member States have different education systems and that no education system shall be considered the standard to be applied by the Organization;

8. *Reiterates* that the Secretary-General has to ensure that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity serve as the paramount consideration in the employment of staff, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Reaffirms* the provisions of regulation 4.2 of the Staff Rules and Staff Regulations of the United Nations, and decides to retain the criterion of geographical status in the staff selection system as one of the key elements to ensure geographical balance at each level for posts subject to geographical distribution;

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[46] A/71/186, A/71/257, A/71/258, A/71/323 and Add.1 and 2, A/71/334 and A/71/360 and Add.1.

[47] A/71/557.

[48] A/71/393.

[49] A/70/685.

[50] A/71/393/Add.1 and A/70/685/Add.1.

10. *Also reaffirms* the need to respect the equality of the two working languages of the Secretariat, further reaffirms the use of additional working languages in specific duty stations as mandated, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that vacancy announcements specify the need for either of the working languages of the Secretariat, unless the functions of the post require a specific working language;

11. *Acknowledges* that the interaction of the United Nations with the local population in the field is essential and that language skills constitute an important element of the selection and training processes, and therefore affirms that a good command of the official language or languages spoken in the country of residence should be taken into account as an additional asset during those processes;

12. *Notes with serious concern* that the 120-day target for filling a post has not been reached, and requests the Secretary-General to investigate the reasons for delays at each stage of the staff selection and recruitment processes, including the stages of candidate recommendation and central review body endorsement, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his next overview report, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, a comprehensive strategy aimed at achieving the 120-day target for recruitment set by the Assembly;

13. *Takes note* of paragraphs 36 and 84 of the report of the Advisory Committee, decides to reduce the standard posting period for position-specific job openings from 60 days to 45 days for jobs in the Professional and higher categories, on a provisional basis as a pilot phase, decides to keep this measure under review, and requests the Secretary-General to report on its full impact in his next overview report;

14. *Emphasizes* the important role of the young professionals programme in improving the geographical representation of unrepresented and underrepresented Member States and in ensuring the continued rejuvenation of the Secretariat;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review his proposal to replace the existing general exam paper with a general test of cognitive and social abilities and to present a detailed analysis thereon in his next overview report;

16. *Takes note* of paragraph 41 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and endorses the proposal of the Secretary-General[61] to extend to three years the period of time during which successful candidates may remain on the roster for the young professionals programme;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General that he continue his ongoing efforts to ensure the attainment of equitable geographical distribution in the Secretariat and to ensure as wide a geographical distribution of staff as possible in all departments and offices and at all levels, including at the Director and higher levels, of the Secretariat, and requests him to report thereon in his next overview report;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 65 of its resolution 65/247 and paragraph 17 of its resolution 66/265 of 21 June 2012, in which it requested the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to ensure the proper representation of troop-contributing countries in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat, taking into account their contribution to United Nations peacekeeping, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in his proposed budget for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;

19. *Expresses serious concern* about the slow pace of progress towards the goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially in senior, policymaking and field positions, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter;

20. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to implement a comprehensive strategy to intensify efforts to ensure greater representation of women in the Secretariat, particularly in senior leadership positions, including through active recruitment and retention policies, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update in his next overview report on progress towards the goal of gender balance, including on the adequate representation of women from developing countries, as a matter of priority, and on how managers have been held to account for contributing to gender targets;

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[61] A/71/323, para. 52 (d).

21. *Reiterates* that the overarching objectives of a performance management system are to measure performance, reward good performance and address underperformance in a credible and effective manner and that it should be easily understood by staff and management, and requests the Secretary-General to further intensify his efforts to ensure that a more refined performance management framework is implemented throughout the Organization, particularly at the managerial and leadership levels, supported by adequate training and guidance;

22. *Notes* that the current ratings distribution is not an accurate reflection of performance in the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to analyse and report on the effectiveness of system enhancements, patterns and trends in completion rates, ratings distribution and participation in performance management training in his next overview report;

23. *Also notes* the establishment of a learning and career support strategy to support staff through learning and development opportunities, in particular in respect of enhancing management and leadership skills within the Organization;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 56 of its resolution 70/244, and encourages the Secretary-General to make further efforts to ensure work-life balance and provide career development opportunities, which are important elements in motivating and retaining staff;

25. *Also recalls* paragraph 68 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a more extensive analysis of potential costs and benefits and to report thereon in his next overview report;

II

Mobility

26. *Takes note* of the progress achieved in the implementation of the first managed mobility exercise for Political, Peace and Humanitarian Network (POLNET) staff members, the result thereof and the preliminary nature of the findings and lessons learned, as reported by the Secretary-General,[57] and looks forward to the continued implementation of the system as adopted in its resolution 68/265;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct further analysis and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session in order to realize the full benefits of mobility, such as reduced recruitment time, a dynamic workforce and ensuring the fair sharing of the burden of service in hardship duty stations;

28. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure necessary cooperation among related departments and offices in the implementation of the new staff selection and managed mobility system, and requests him to report thereon in his next progress report;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide detailed information on his proposal to include vacant positions at B, C, D and E duty stations in the managed mobility system in his next progress report;

30. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General that he ensure the fair treatment of all staff members in the context of the reassignment pool related to the managed mobility framework;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the consistent and transparent application of the criteria for possible deferments of or exemptions from mobility requirements;

III

Assessment of desirable ranges

32. *Notes with concern* that the Secretary-General has failed to present a proposal for a comprehensive review of the system of desirable ranges, and in this regard requests him to present to the General Assembly, no later than at its seventy-third session, proposals for a comprehensive review of the system of desirable ranges, including

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[57] A/71/323/Add.1.

by retaining or widening the current base number of Professional posts, with a view to establishing a more effective tool for ensuring equitable geographical distribution within the Secretariat in relation to all posts financed through the regular budget;

IV

Composition of the Secretariat

33. *Notes with concern* the upward shift in the grade structure of the Secretariat and the relatively low number of junior-level posts, and requests the Secretary-General to take concrete measures to reverse this trend, including a review of all existing positions at the levels of Director, Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General, with a view to identifying any overlapping functions and responsibilities and reducing the overall number of posts at these levels, and to report thereon in his next budget submission;

34. *Reiterates its concern* over the increase in the use of consultants, especially in the core activities of the Organization, stresses that the use of consultants should be governed by the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular section VIII of its resolution 53/221, and that they should be drawn from the widest possible geographical basis, and requests the Secretary-General to make the greatest possible use of in-house capacity and to report to the Assembly at its seventy-third session on the measures taken to that effect;

35. *Welcomes* the United Nations internship programme, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that it contributes to the achievement of United Nations objectives and the learning experience of the participants;

V

Practice of the Secretary-General in disciplinary matters and possible criminal behaviour

36. *Recognizes* the importance of high standards of investigative practices within the Organization, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to improve investigative procedures and to report thereon in his next report;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to finalize and issue an administrative instruction on disciplinary matters, as a matter of priority, without further delay and no later than 31 December 2016, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

VI

Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules

38. *Approves* the proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations and notes the amendments to the Staff Rules set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[33] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

39. *Takes note* of paragraph 129 of the report of the Advisory Committee with regard to broadening the scope of staff rule 9.9 (*b*) to cover other types of serious misconduct;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide information on the impact of the amendment to staff rule 10.4 on investigative activities in the context of his next report;

41. *Decides* that new staff rule 3.20 proposed to implement the new recruitment incentive approved in paragraph 53 of its resolution 70/244 shall read as follows:

> An incentive payment for the recruitment of experts in highly specialized fields in instances in which the Organization was unable to attract suitably qualified personnel may be made under conditions to be prescribed by the Secretary-General. The amount of the recruitment incentive shall not exceed 25 per cent of the annual net base salary for each year of the agreed appointment.

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[33] A/71/258.

VII

Activities of the Ethics Office

42. *Commends* the Ethics Office on its exceptional ongoing efforts to foster a culture of ethics, integrity, transparency and accountability in the Organization, and welcomes the efforts of the Office to increase awareness of ethics-related issues through outreach, training and education;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to encourage all eligible senior officials who have not yet publicly disclosed a summary of their assets to do so in future cycles, and also requests the Secretary-General to collect data relating to gifts and honours received by Secretariat officials, to monitor related trends and to report thereon in his next report;

44. *Recalls* paragraph 146 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and urges the Secretary-General to finalize and promulgate the revised policy on protection against retaliation by the end of 2016, to ensure the swift and effective implementation thereof and to promote an organizational culture in which staff are not reluctant to speak up and that those who retaliate are held accountable;

45. *Also recalls* paragraph 147 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to develop in his next report a proposal concerning the independence of the Ethics Office for the consideration of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

RESOLUTION 71/264

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/709, para. 6)

71/264. United Nations common system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005, 61/239 of 22 December 2006, 62/227 of 22 December 2007, 63/251 of 24 December 2008, 64/231 of 22 December 2009, 65/248 of 24 December 2010, 66/235 A of 24 December 2011, 66/235 B of 21 June 2012, 67/257 of 12 April 2013, 68/253 of 27 December 2013, 69/251 of 29 December 2014 and 70/244 of 23 December 2015 and its decision 67/551 of 24 December 2012,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2016,[54]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2016;[54]

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in approving conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system, bearing in mind articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission;[55]

4. *Recalls* articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission, and reaffirms the central role of the Commission in regulating and coordinating conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system;

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[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/71/30).

[55] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

I

Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

A. Framework for human resources management

1. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the Commission regarding the revised human resources management framework;

2. *Takes note* of the conclusions and decisions of the Commission contained in paragraph 28 of its report;

B. Separation payments

1. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Commission on the establishment of end-of-service severance pay for staff serving under a fixed-term contract and separating from the Organization upon the expiration of that contract after 10 or more years of continuous service;

2. *Regrets* that no decision was taken on the issue of end-of-service severance pay for fixed-term staff during the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions of the General Assembly;

3. *Recognizes* that a decision must be taken, and requests the Commission to undertake a comprehensive analysis, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, of the effect of the adoption of the above-mentioned recommendation, including the updated financial implications and the distinctions between temporary, fixed-term and continuing contracts, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session in order for a decision to be taken on the recommendation and, as appropriate, the implementation date;

II

Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

Recalling also its resolution 70/244, in which it approved a unified base/floor salary scale and decided that the scale should be updated to reflect any adjustments in base/floor salaries that might be approved before its implementation,

Approves, with effect from 1 January 2017, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 122 of its report, the revised unified base/floor salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories, as contained in annex V to that report;

B. Evolution of the margin and margin management around the desirable midpoint

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 51/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 is 114.5;

3. *Requests* the Commission to include information on the margin, as well as on the development of the margin over time, in an annex to its annual reports;

4. *Recalls* its decision contained in resolution 70/244 that, if the margin trigger levels of 113 or 117 are breached, the Commission should take appropriate action through the operation of the post adjustment system;

5. *Notes* the decision of the Commission to continue monitoring the level of the margin and to take the necessary corrective action under the operation of the post adjustment system should the trigger levels of 113 or 117 be breached;

III

Other matters

A. General Service salary survey methodologies

Requests the Commission, during its next review of the General Service salary survey methodologies under the Flemming principle, to consider the possibility of further increases in the weight of the local national civil services among the retained employers, taking into account that the United Nations is a civil service organization, as well as past experiences of the Commission from the previous round of surveys;

B. Equitable geographical representation and the goal of 50/50 gender balance

Recalls paragraphs 54 and 55 of its resolution 70/244 and the decision of the Commission contained in paragraph 160 of its report, and in this regard requests the Commission to continue to provide information to the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, on the progress made by organizations of the United Nations common system in the implementation of existing gender policies and measures towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance and strengthening geographical diversity within the common system.

RESOLUTION 71/265

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/701, para. 6)

71/265. United Nations pension system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 69/113 of 10 December 2014 and its resolution 70/238 A and section VI of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2016,[56] the report of the Secretary-General on investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund,[57] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund[58] and the recommendations contained therein, the report of the Secretary of the Pension Board on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2015 on the Fund[59] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[60]

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[56] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/71/9).

[57] A/C.5/71/2.

[58] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 5P* (A/71/5/Add.16).

[59] A/71/397.

[60] A/71/621.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2016[56] and the report of the Secretary-General on investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund;[57]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary of the Pension Board on implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2015 on the Fund;[59]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[60] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

Actuarial matters

4. *Notes* the valuation results reporting a surplus of 0.16 per cent as at 31 December 2015, and in this regard stresses the importance of continuing to earn the necessary 3.5 per cent annual real rate of return on a long-term basis for the future solvency of the Fund;

Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors

5. *Welcomes* the preparation and submission to the General Assembly of the separate report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund, and commends the efforts of all stakeholders;

6. *Notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements of the Fund for the year ended 31 December 2015;

7. *Stresses* the need for the Fund to address all the weaknesses identified by the Board of Auditors in relation to vacancies in key positions, risk management, investment management, management of external fund managers, benefits payment management and other administrative processes;

Governance and administration

8. *Recognizes* that the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[61] remain the highest framework governing all aspects related to the administrative services provided by the United Nations Secretariat, including the procurement of goods and services, the management of property and internal and external audit arrangements;

9. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services shall remain the sole internal oversight body of the Fund's secretariat and investment, in line with the mandate given to the Office by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, and stresses that any change to the mandate in this regard remains the sole prerogative of the Assembly;

10. *Approves* an amendment to article 41 of the regulations of the Fund as provided in annex XIII to the report of the Pension Board to reflect the adoption of the medical standard of "fit for employment" for participation in the Fund;

11. *Also approves* a technical amendment to clarify the language of article 24 of the regulations, as set out in annex XIII to the report of the Pension Board;

12. *Further approves* an amendment to paragraph 26 of the Fund's pension adjustment system to reflect that, in cases of reinstatement, a new local currency track benefit would be established as from the date of reinstatement using the 36-month average of exchange rates ending as at that date, as set out in annex XV to the report of the Pension Board;

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[61] ST/SGB/2013/4.

13. *Welcomes* the successful implementation of the Integrated Pension Administration System, and stresses the need for continued efforts to address underlying challenges, taking into account the observations, comments and recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee;

14. *Expresses serious concern* at the continued delays in the receipt of payments by some new beneficiaries and retirees of the Fund, once again stresses the need for the Pension Board to take appropriate steps to ensure that the Fund addresses the causes of such delays, and in this regard requests an update in the context of the next report of the Board;

15. *Notes with concern* that the delays in the payments may place beneficiaries and retirees, as well as their families, in difficult situations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to invite the heads of member organizations to take the appropriate steps, including by expediting information processing for new beneficiaries and retirees, to resolve this situation;

16. *Looks forward* to the results of the review of the end-to-end process aimed at identifying streamlining opportunities during all phases of the process in cooperation with member organizations of the Fund, and in this regard requests the Pension Board to ensure that the Fund completes the review, as a matter of priority, and to report on measures taken to address identified bottlenecks in the context of the next report of the Board;

17. *Notes with concern* the high number of vacant posts in the Fund, and in this regard requests the Pension Board to ensure that the Fund takes appropriate measures to fill all the vacant posts in the Fund secretariat in full compliance with relevant provisions governing recruitment;

18. *Decides* to establish nine additional temporary positions for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017, as set out in the table below:

Organizational unit	*Title of position*	*Number of positions*	*Category/level*
Administration Programme of work			
Operations (New York)	Benefits Officer	1	P-3
	Benefits Assistant	6	General Service (Other level)
Operations (Geneva)	Benefits Officer	1	P-3
	Benefits Assistant	1	General Service (Other level)
Total		**9**	

19. *Approves* the additional provision of 977,100 United States dollars for general temporary assistance for the biennium 2016–2017;

20. *Also approves* an increase in total resources for the biennium 2016–2017 from 179,078,300 dollars to 180,055,400 dollars, as a result of which the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the Fund would remain unchanged at 21,865,300 dollars, and notes that extrabudgetary costs remain unchanged at 164,700 dollars;

Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

21. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with article 19 of the regulations of the Fund, the Secretary-General serves as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund and has fiduciary responsibility for deciding on the investment of the assets of the Fund;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments between developed, developing and emerging markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that decisions

concerning the investments of the Fund in any country are implemented prudently, taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment, namely, safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility, under volatile market conditions;

23. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to explore prospects in all markets, taking into account risk-return profiles and always applying sound risk management techniques, and taking fully into account the four main criteria for investments of the Fund;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[60] expresses concern at the near-term underperformance of investments, emphasizes the importance of the Fund meeting its target annual real rate of return of 3.5 per cent over the long term, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make all efforts to improve the investment performance of the Fund and to report thereon in the context of future reports on the investments of the Fund;

25. *Expresses concern* that, for the biennium 2014–2015, foreign exchange losses recorded in the financial statements of the Fund amounted to 3.4 billion dollars, and urges the Secretary-General to employ suitable procedures and tools to mitigate foreign exchange losses as well as develop an internal mechanism to monitor, evaluate and manage losses or gains owing to foreign exchange in addition to regular monitoring of the fair value of the assets;

26. *Notes with serious concern* the high number of vacant posts in the Investment Management Division, in particular at the managerial and senior levels, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to fill all vacant posts, as a matter of priority and in full compliance with relevant provisions governing recruitment in the United Nations;

27. *Welcomes* the development of the anti-fraud and anti-corruption policy for the Investment Management Division, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure its full implementation;

28. *Recalls* section VI, paragraph 10, of its resolution 70/248 A, notes with concern that the report of the Secretary-General did not include information on the performance of his representative, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide, at the main part of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly and in all his future reports on the investment of the Fund, information on the performance of his representative in discharging his or her responsibilities;

Other matters

29. *Emphasizes* the need for the Pension Board to ensure that the Fund takes appropriate measures to use existing internal capacities and avoid the use of consultants in its operations, as appropriate;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with conducting a comprehensive audit of the Fund's policies on, inter alia, risk management, investment management and other administrative processes and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on key findings in the context of the annual report on the activities of the Office.

RESOLUTION 71/266

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/707, para. 6)

71/266. Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XI of its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 and its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005, 61/261 of 4 April 2007, 62/228 of 22 December 2007, 63/253 of 24 December 2008, 64/233 of 22 December 2009, 65/251 of 24 December 2010, 66/237 of 24 December 2011, 67/241 of 24 December 2012, 68/254 of 27 December 2013, 69/203 of 18 December 2014 and 70/112 of 14 December 2015, *Having considered* the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations[62] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[63] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations,[64] the report of the Secretary-General on the findings and recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations, and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017,[65] the report of the Internal Justice Council on administration of justice at the United Nations[66] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67] as well as the letters dated 26 October 2016 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,[68]

Having also considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of the organizational ombudsman services across the United Nations system"[69] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[70]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on administration of justice at the United Nations[62] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[63] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations,[64] the report of the Secretary-General on the findings and recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations, and revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017,[65] the report of the Internal Justice Council on administration of justice at the United Nations[66] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[67]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

I

System of administration of justice

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the principle of judicial independence in the system of administration of justice;

4. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access for all staff members to the system of administration of justice, regardless of their duty station;

5. *Acknowledges* the evolving nature of the system of administration of justice and the need to carefully monitor its implementation to ensure that it remains within the parameters set out by the General Assembly;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the achievements of the system of administration of justice since its inception with regard to both the disposal of the backlog and the addressing of new cases, as well as the increased use of informal resolution mechanisms;

7. *Stresses* the importance of continuous consultation among relevant stakeholders in fostering a dialogue-oriented culture across the Organization;

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[62] A/71/164.

[63] A/71/157.

[64] A/71/62/Rev.1.

[65] A/71/163.

[66] A/71/158.

[67] A/71/436.

[68] A/C.5/71/10 and A/C.5/71/11.

[69] A/71/117 and Corr.1.

[70] A/71/117/Add.1.

8. *Reaffirms* its decision, contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/261, to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike;

9. *Recalls* its decision that the interim independent assessment of the system of administration of justice should include consideration of the relationship between the formal and informal systems and whether the aims and objectives of the system set out in its resolution 61/261 are being achieved in an efficient and cost-effective manner;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the findings of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the system of administration of justice at the United Nations that the system has made a good start and is an improvement over the previous system and that the aims and objectives of the system have been achieved to a very great extent;

11. *Recognizes* that there is still room for further improvement in the system of administration of justice at the United Nations, stresses the importance of the consideration of the recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel that can contribute to further enhancement of the system, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report thereon, as appropriate;

12. *Endorses* recommendations 9, 13, 15, 33, 35 and 36 contained in the report of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their implementation, within existing resources, and to report thereon in the context of future reports under the agenda item on administration of justice at the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* recommendation 27 contained in the report of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel, notes that the question of further flexibility for extension or suspension of deadlines is currently under review, and looks forward to the outcome of that review;

14. *Notes* that a letter dated 26 October 2016 was sent from the President of the General Assembly to the Chair of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 30 September 2016 from the President of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal to the President of the Assembly[71] in respect of some of the comments contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the findings and recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel;

15. *Emphasizes* the necessity and urgency of improving human resources management in preventing disputes and enhancing accountability, reiterates the importance of transparency and fairness in decision-making in preventing conflicts, requests the Secretary-General to take into account the observations and recommendations of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel on the key causes of disputes, and also requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake all efforts to ensure the proper and consistent application of the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in order to reduce the need for cases to be brought to both the formal and informal systems;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on measures taken to strengthen measures for protection against retaliation in his future reports;

17. *Notes* the observations of the Internal Justice Council, the Interim Independent Assessment Panel, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Sixth Committee on non-staff personnel, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare a compilation setting out the categories of non-staff personnel and the remedies available to them, in tabular form, and providing figures for the number of disputes brought by non-staff personnel and the types of remedies used since 2009, to the extent available, and considers that, in order to assess how effective remedies are and to inform the discussion on the matter at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, the following information should be included:

(*a*) The number of disputes brought before the system of justice and/or any other measures for addressing disputes available for each category of non-staff personnel and an indication of how such disputes were resolved;

(*b*) The number of disputes brought before national jurisdictions and an indication of how such disputes were resolved;

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[71] A/C.5/71/11.

(*c*) The practical measures that have been taken so far by the United Nations to ensure a proper implementation of the system and to avoid gaps, as well as any other good practices, including in such matters as translation of documents into local languages, the ability to be heard, access to arbitration, information given to non-staff personnel on available remedies and so on; it is suggested that the Secretariat prepare a questionnaire to that effect;

(*d*) Information on how the specialized agencies and related bodies of the United Nations system provide remedies to non-staff personnel;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include information on disputes involving non-staff personnel in the context of both management evaluation and informal mediation in his future reports, and requests that he provide information on existing measures to institutionalize good management practice that aim to avoid or mitigate disputes involving the different categories of non-staff personnel;

II

Informal system

19. *Recognizes* that the informal system of administration of justice is an efficient and effective option both for staff who seek redress of grievances and for the participation of managers;

20. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation, without prejudice to the basic right of staff members to access the formal system, and encourages recourse to the informal resolution of disputes;

21. *Welcomes* the promulgation of the revised terms of reference and guidelines for the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services;[72]

22. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to intensify its outreach activities to encourage informal dispute resolution;

23. *Recalls* paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and stresses the continued importance of the informal part of the system of administration of justice in taking early action to prevent or limit cases of litigation, encourage amicable resolution of disputes and foster a more collaborative and harmonious culture;

24. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services in enhancing efforts aimed at the informal resolution of conflict, and requests the Secretary-General to provide more detailed information in his next report to the General Assembly on the impact of conflict prevention training and on efforts to further enhance cooperation between the informal and formal parts of the system of administration of justice;

25. *Emphasizes* the importance of both staff and managers understanding and adopting conflict competency skills in order to prevent conflicts, cope with potential or actual conflicts and maintain resilience, and in this regard notes with appreciation the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to promote conflict competence at all levels of the Organization;

26. *Welcomes* the analysis of the root causes of conflict included in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, stresses the importance of improving management performance and staff communications, and urges the Secretary-General to address the systemic issues identified in the report in order to improve upon the policies and procedures of the Organization;

27. *Recognizes* that access to the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services is a challenge for staff in the field, including for those in special political missions, encourages the development of innovative measures to address those challenges, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session;

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[72] ST/SGB/2016/7.

III

Formal system

28. *Recognizes* the ongoing positive contribution of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to the system of administration of justice;

29. *Recalls* its decision, contained in paragraph 5 of its resolution 68/254, and reiterates that decisions taken by the Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal shall conform with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions on issues related to human resources management;

30. *Also recalls* article 10.6 of the statute of the Dispute Tribunal and article 9.2 of the statute of the Appeals Tribunal, stresses the ability of the Tribunals to award costs against parties that manifestly abuse the proceedings, and encourages the Tribunals to proactively manage cases and/or to summarily dismiss cases under appropriate circumstances;

31. *Emphasizes* the importance of the publication of the judgments of the Dispute and Appeals Tribunals to make the reasoning behind the decisions well known to the entire structure of the Organization, for improving managerial practices and determining the proper implementation of the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and for the predictability of the justice system, and encourages the exploration of better approaches when referring to personal data in the judgments of the Tribunals, with the aim of protecting the privacy of individuals who have no means to respond publicly;

32. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to extend the three ad litem judge positions and the current incumbent judges for one year, from 1 January to 31 December 2017;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to track the data on the number of cases received by the Management Evaluation Unit and the Dispute Tribunal in order to identify any emerging trends and to include his observations on those statistics in future reports;

34. *Notes* the ongoing work of the interdepartmental working group to further explore the delegation of authority with regard to disciplinary matters, and looks forward to receiving updates in the context of the next report of the Secretary-General;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the accountability of managers whose decisions have been established to be grossly negligent, according to the applicable Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, and which have led to litigation and subsequent financial loss, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

36. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to proactively engage in a process to review referrals for accountability as well as other potential options for accountability, with the aim of ensuring the enforcement of accountability, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

37. *Notes* recommendations 26 and 38 contained in the report of the Interim Independent Assessment Panel and the related observations of the Internal Justice Council, and in this regard reiterates the important role of the Management Evaluation Unit as a first step in the formal system of administration of justice towards enhancing transparency in decision-making, providing opportunities for the Administration to correct contested administrative decisions where mistakes have been made, ensuring that managers continue to remain accountable for their administrative decisions and preventing unnecessary litigation, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the effectiveness of the Management Evaluation Unit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

38. *Takes note* of the information provided regarding the voluntary supplemental funding mechanism for additional resources for the Office of Staff Legal Assistance, and decides to extend the experimental period for the mechanism for one year, from 1 January to 31 December 2017;

39. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to explore options to ensure the sustainability of the voluntary supplemental funding mechanism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session;

40. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts made with respect to incentives for staff not to opt out of the voluntary supplemental funding mechanism, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to strengthen such incentives, particularly in locations where the participation rate is low;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to collect and examine data relating to staff contributions to the Office of Staff Legal Assistance and to report thereon to the General Assembly in his next report;

42. *Stresses* the need to continue to explore means to raise awareness among staff of the importance of financial contributions to the Office of Staff Legal Assistance;

43. *Approves* the Code of Conduct for Legal Representatives and Litigants in Person annexed to the present resolution;

44. *Also approves* the proposal of the Secretary-General to amend the statutes of the Dispute and Appeals Tribunals as follows:

(*a*) Statute of the Dispute Tribunal, article 4, amended paragraph 3 (*a*):

3 (*a*) Be of high moral character and impartial;

(*b*) Statute of the Dispute Tribunal, article 4, new paragraph 3 (*c*):

3 (*c*) Be fluent, both orally and in writing, in English or French.

(*c*) Statute of the Dispute Tribunal, article 4, amended paragraph 7:

7. The Dispute Tribunal shall elect a President who shall have the authority, inter alia, to monitor the timely delivery of judgments.

(*d*) Statute of the Appeals Tribunal, article 4, new paragraph 4:

4. The President shall have the authority, inter alia, to monitor the timely delivery of judgments.

IV

Other issues

45. *Stresses* that the Internal Justice Council can help to ensure independence, professionalism and accountability in the system of administration of justice, and requests the Secretary-General to entrust the Council with including the views of both the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal in its reports;

46. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

47. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to consider the issues related to resource requirements for improving the functioning of a transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice at the United Nations at its seventy-second session, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include updated information on the matter, taking into account the existing and potential challenges, including workload, funding arrangements and potential disputes arising from mandatory mobility, in the context of his next report on administration of justice.

Annex

Code of Conduct for Legal Representatives and Litigants in Person

Preamble

Whereas the General Assembly, in its resolution 69/203 of 18 December 2014, stressed the need to ensure that all individuals acting as legal representatives appearing before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal are subject to the same standards of professional conduct, and requested the submission of a single code of conduct for all legal representatives, without prejudice to other lines of disciplinary authority,

Whereas appropriate standards should also be adopted for litigants in person,

The following provisions are adopted.

Article 1
Definitions

In the present Code, the following terms shall mean:

Code: the present Code of Conduct for Legal Representatives and Litigants in Person acting in proceedings before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as approved by the General Assembly;

Legal representative: an individual who acts on behalf of a party in proceedings before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

Litigant in person: an individual who represents himself or herself in proceedings before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

Party: the applicant or the respondent in proceedings before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal or the appellant or the respondent in proceedings before the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

Statutes: the statutes of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/253, as amended;

Rules of procedure: the rules of procedure of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal, as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/119, as amended;

United Nations Dispute Tribunal: the Tribunal established by its statute as the first instance of the two-tier formal system of administration of justice at the United Nations;

United Nations Appeals Tribunal: the Tribunal established by its statute as the second instance of the two-tier formal system of administration of justice at the United Nations and as the final instance for those entities that have accepted its jurisdiction under article 2, paragraph 10, of its statute;

Tribunal(s): the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and United Nations Appeals Tribunal, individually or collectively.

Article 2
Purpose

The present Code describes the conduct expected of legal representatives and litigants in person in proceedings before the Tribunals in the interest of the fair and proper administration of justice.

Article 3
Acknowledgement

By acting in proceedings before the Tribunals, legal representatives and litigants in person acknowledge the provisions of the present Code.

Article 4
Basic standards

1. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall maintain the highest standards of integrity and shall at all times act honestly, candidly, fairly, courteously, in good faith and without regard to external pressures or extraneous considerations.

2. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall act diligently and efficiently and shall avoid unnecessary delay in the conduct of proceedings.

3. Legal representatives should encourage and facilitate dialogue between the parties with a view to settling disputes in appropriate cases.

4. Legal representatives shall maintain the highest standards of professionalism and shall act in the best interests of the party they represent, subject always to upholding the interests of justice and ethical standards.

Article 5
Conflict of interest

1. Legal representatives shall put the interests of the party they represent before their own interests and the interests of others, and shall not represent conflicting interests in proceedings.

2. Where a conflict of interest arises, legal representatives shall promptly:

(*a*) Disclose the conflict to the party they represent;

(*b*) Take all reasonable steps to mitigate the conflict; and

(*c*) Withdraw themselves as legal representatives if the conflict cannot be mitigated.

3. A party may waive a conflict of interest and consent to the legal representative continuing to act in proceedings.

Article 6
Confidentiality

1. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall maintain the confidentiality of the proceedings of the Tribunals in accordance with the provisions of the statutes and rules of procedure, or as otherwise ordered by the Tribunals.

2. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall respect the confidential character of any information imparted to them in confidence in the proceedings.

3. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall not disclose, except as appropriate in the normal course of the proceedings, any document which is inviolable in accordance with applicable legal instruments on privileges and immunities of the United Nations, its specialized agencies or other United Nations entities, unless such document is already public or by authorization of the Secretary-General or the appropriate official of the relevant entity before the Tribunal.

4. The obligations set forth in this article remain even after proceedings before the Tribunals have ended.

Article 7
Withdrawal of representation

1. Legal representatives may withdraw their representation of a party where they reasonably consider that good cause to do so exists.

2. In withdrawing representation, legal representatives shall take steps to the extent reasonably practicable to protect the party's interests.

3. Legal representatives shall promptly communicate such withdrawal in writing to the party they represent and the relevant Registry.

Article 8
Relations with the Tribunals

1. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall assist the Tribunals in maintaining the dignity and decorum of proceedings and avoiding disorder and disruption.

2. Legal representatives and litigants in person shall be diligent in complying with the statutes, rules of procedure, practice directions and orders, rulings or directions that may be issued by the Tribunals.

Article 9
Administration of the Code

The Tribunals may issue orders, rulings or directions in order to implement the provisions of the present Code.

RESOLUTION 71/267

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/705, para. 6)

71/267. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the final performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget and the liquidation of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 for the biennium 2016–2017,[73] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[74] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda[75] and the recommendations contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 49/251 of 20 July 1995 on the financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 70/241 of 23 December 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the final performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget and the liquidation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2016–2017;[73]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[74]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that Headquarters provides guidance, oversight and support to future liquidation processes, including accurate budget estimates and feasible time frames;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with the conduct of final oversight of the Tribunal, covering, inter alia, the effectiveness of the liquidation exercise, and to include information on key findings in the context of the next annual report on its activities;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue the recovery of overpayments, where appropriate and economically feasible, and to report thereon in the context of his second performance report on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that lessons learned from the liquidation of the Tribunal are incorporated, as appropriate, into future liquidations of tribunals and other United Nations Secretariat entities, as well as into relevant United Nations policies and procedures;

7. *Approves* the final appropriation for the Tribunal for the biennium 2016–2017 in the amount of 2,086,100 United States dollars gross (1,978,800 dollars net), as initially appropriated by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/241;

8. *Also approves* the transfer and charge of 3,726,700 dollars gross (3,466,000 dollars net) as part of the estimated final expenditure, and further expenditures, if any, in excess of the approved appropriation for that purpose, under the 2016–2017 budget for the Mechanism, to be reported in the context of the second performance report on the budget of the Mechanism.

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[73] A/71/577.

[74] A/71/671.

[75] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 5M* (A/71/5/Add.13).

RESOLUTION 71/268

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/703, para. 6)

71/268. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of the Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2016–2017,[76] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[77] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[78] and the recommendations contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 47/235 of 14 September 1993 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 70/242 of 23 December 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2016–2017;[76]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[77]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that proper management, internal control and accountability are in place in the Tribunal in order to prevent any erroneous payments;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued efforts of the Secretary-General to implement the completion strategy for the Tribunal in an efficient and timely manner;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to complete the work of the Tribunal within the approved timeline and resources, with due regard to the lessons learned from the liquidation of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994, and to report thereon at the main part of its seventy-second session;

6. *Decides* that any residual liquidation activities that remain after the completion of the substantive work of the Tribunal shall be undertaken by the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;

7. *Also decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 of a total amount of 98,064,000 United States dollars gross (86,917,900 dollars net) for the biennium 2016–2017, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

8. *Further decides*, for the year 2017, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 25,050,225 dollars gross (22,157,800 dollars net), including 1,158,450 dollars gross (946,650 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

9. *Decides*, for the year 2017, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 25,050,225 dollars gross (22,157,800 dollars net), including 1,158,450 dollars gross (946,650 dollars net), being the increase in assessments;

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[76] A/71/578.

[77] A/71/671.

[78] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 5N* (A/71/5/Add.14).

10. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 8 and 9 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 5,784,850 dollars, including 423,600 dollars, being the increase of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Tribunal for the biennium 2016–2017.

Annex

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2016–2017

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Initial appropriation for the biennium 2016–2017 (resolution 70/242)	95 747 100	85 024 600
First performance report for the biennium 2016–2017 (A/71/578)	2 316 900	1 893 300
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/71/671)	–	–
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	–	–
Revised appropriation for the biennium 2016–2017	**98 064 000**	**86 917 900**
Less: Estimated income for the biennium 2016–2017	(180 000)	(180 000)
Amount to be assessed for the biennium 2016–2017 (net of estimated income)	**97 884 000**	**86 737 900**
Assessment for 2016	47 783 550	42 422 300
Balance to be assessed for 2017	**50 100 450**	**44 315 600**
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2017	25 050 225	22 157 800
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2017	25 050 225	22 157 800

RESOLUTION 71/269

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/704, para. 6)

71/269. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

The General Assembly,

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2016–2017,[79] the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[80] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the Mechanism[81] and the recommendations contained therein,

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[79] A/71/579.

[80] A/71/671.

[81] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 5O* (A/71/5/Add.15).

Recalling its resolution 66/240 A of 24 December 2011 on the financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 70/243 of 23 December 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2016–2017;[79]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[80]

3. *Decides* that any residual liquidation activities that remain after the completion of the substantive work of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 shall be undertaken by the Mechanism;

4. *Notes* the transfer of an overexpenditure in the amount of 3,700,000 United States dollars from the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 to the Mechanism, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the treatment of the amount of the overexpenditure in the context of his second performance report on the budget of the Mechanism for the biennium 2016–2017;

5. *Decides* on a revised appropriation to the Special Account for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals of a total amount of 135,747,700 dollars gross (125,153,500 dollars net) for the biennium 2016–2017, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

6. *Also decides*, for the year 2017, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 33,522,800 dollars gross (30,840,425 dollars net), including 828,250 dollars gross (895,900 dollars net), being the decrease in assessments;

7. *Further decides*, for the year 2017, to apportion among Member States, in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for the year, the amount of 33,522,800 dollars gross (30,840,425 dollars net), including 828,250 dollars gross (895,900 dollars net), being the decrease in assessments;

8. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 6 and 7 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 5,364,750 dollars, including 135,300 dollars, being the increase of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Mechanism for the biennium 2016–2017.

Annex

Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the biennium 2016–2017

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
Initial appropriation for the biennium 2016–2017 (resolution 70/243)	137 404 200	126 945 300
First performance report for the biennium 2016–2017 (A/71/579)	(1 656 500)	(1 791 800)
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/71/671)	–	–
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	–	–
Revised appropriation for the biennium 2016–2017	**135 747 700**	**125 153 500**
Less: Assessment for 2016	68 702 100	63 472 650
Balance to be assessed for 2017	**67 045 600**	**61 680 850**
Including:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2017	33 522 800	30 840 425
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2017	33 522 800	30 840 425

RESOLUTION 71/270

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/708, para. 6)

71/270. Review of the United Nations Office to the African Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/287 of 17 June 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[82] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[83]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[82]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[83] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recognizes* the increasing complexities of the issues in the region, emphasizes the importance of enhancing partnership, collaboration and cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, with a view to better addressing existing challenges, in accordance with the given mandates, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that future budget submissions place sufficient emphasis on the substantive part of mandate delivery;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take advantage of the co-location of the United Nations Office to the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa, with a view to continuing to maximize efficiencies on common administrative support services, and to include relevant information in the context of future budget submissions;

5. *Notes* the comprehensive review of the Office carried out pursuant to its resolution 70/287, and in this regard approves the restructuring of the Office;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 13 and 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides, under the support account for peacekeeping operations, with effect from 1 January 2017:

(*a*) To establish three new posts, comprising one Head of the Institutional and Operational Partnership Service (D-1), one Chief of Staff (D-1) and one National Professional Officer;

(*b*) To abolish five national General Service posts, comprising two Telecommunications Assistants, two General Service Assistants and one Medical Assistant/Nurse;

(*c*) To abolish two Field Service posts, comprising one Security Officer and one Telecommunications Technician;

(*d*) To retain one national General Service post of Facilities Management Assistant;

(*e*) To redeploy posts as proposed by the Secretary-General;

(*f*) To reassign posts as proposed by the Secretary-General;

7. *Also recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the reassignment of the D-2 post (from Chief of Staff to Deputy Head of Office) approved under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017.

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[82] A/71/551.

[83] A/71/646.

RESOLUTION 71/271

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/715, para. 6)

71/271. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire[84] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[85]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1528 (2004) of 27 February 2004, by which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for an initial period of 12 months as from 4 April 2004, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation, the latest of which was resolution 2284 (2016) of 28 April 2016, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation for a final period until 30 June 2017,

Recalling also its resolution 58/310 of 18 June 2004 on the financing of the Operation and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 70/272 of 17 June 2016,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of its resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006, 61/276 of 29 June 2007, 64/269 of 24 June 2010, 65/289 of 30 June 2011, 66/264 of 21 June 2012, 69/307 of 25 June 2015 and 70/286 of 17 June 2016, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire as at 30 November 2016, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 25.8 million United States dollars, representing some 0.4 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only 75 Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Operation in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that proposed peacekeeping budgets are based on the relevant legislative mandates;

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[84] A/71/599.

[85] A/71/676.

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[85] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266, 61/276, 64/269, 65/289, 66/264, 69/307 and 70/286;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all action necessary to ensure that the Operation is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to settle all the outstanding claims with regard to death and disability compensation and to report thereon in his next report;

12. *Also recalls* paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee, requests the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to implement the programmatic activities, as mandated, and to ensure that the necessary arrangements are made to transfer the residual activities of the Operation to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the United Nations country team, as appropriate, and to report thereon in the context of the final performance report;

13. *Further recalls* paragraph 31 of its resolution 70/286, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to fully comply with the relevant rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, the United Nations environmental and waste management policy and procedures, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Operation takes effective measures to reduce its environmental footprint during its closure, including the restoration of premises to their original status, as appropriate, while absorbing the associated costs;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 34 of the report of the Advisory Committee, emphasizes the importance of the Operation's quick-impact projects, in particular the facilitation and strengthening of social cohesion and national reconciliation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure their timely implementation and to report thereon;

15. *Stresses* the important contribution of experienced staff, in particular the national staff, during the drawdown and the liquidation of the Operation;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 38 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to rigorously pursue and complete the liquidation of assets, as planned, in accordance with regulation 5.14 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[86] including engaging with the authorities regarding potential donations and taking account of lessons learned, and to report thereon in the context of the final performance report;

17. *Commends* the efforts undertaken to prepare national staff for the transition to future professional careers outside the Operation by conducting training and hosting job fairs, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts and to report on progress made in this regard in the context of the final performance report;

Revised budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017

18. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire the amount of 171,937,848 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, inclusive of the amount of 153,046,000 dollars previously authorized for the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2016 under the terms of its resolution 70/272;

Financing of appropriation

19. *Decides*, taking into account the amount of 153,046,000 dollars already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 70/272 for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2016, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 18,891,848 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 70/246 of 23 December 2015, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2017, as set out in its resolution 70/245 of 23 December 2015;

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[86] ST/SGB/2013/4.

20. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 19 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 1,075,400 dollars, representing the balance of the estimated staff assessment income of 4,802,700 dollars approved for the Operation for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017;

21. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

22. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Operation under the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

23. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Operation in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedures and practices established by the General Assembly;

24. *Decides* to keep under review, during its seventy-first session, the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire".

RESOLUTION 71/272

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/716, para. 65)

71/272. Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

The General Assembly,

I

International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, section V of its resolution 63/262 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, its resolution 65/243 A of 24 December 2010, section II.B of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, section I of its resolution 66/232 B of 21 June 2012, its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011, section IV of its resolution 67/246 of 24 December 2012, its resolution 68/246 of 27 December 2013, section II of its resolution 68/247 A of 27 December 2013, section I of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014 and section I of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015,

Having considered the ninth progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations[87] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[87]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[88]

II

Subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Recalling section I of its resolution 68/247 B of 9 April 2014, section I of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015 and section IV of its resolution 70/248 A,

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[87] A/71/226.

[88] A/71/542.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia[89] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[90]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[89]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[90]

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 11 million United States dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of commitment authority in the context of the next report;

5. *Encourages* all Member States to provide voluntary support for both the international and national components of the Extraordinary Chambers, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his intensive efforts to obtain additional voluntary contributions, including by broadening the donor base, for funding the future activities of the Extraordinary Chambers;

III

Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Recalling its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution 59/294 of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution 65/259, section IX of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution 67/246 and section VII of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and the request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone[91] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[92]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[91]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[92]

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone;

4. *Expresses serious concern* over the adverse financial situation facing the Residual Special Court, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to seek voluntary contributions, including through broadening the donor base and holding regular consultations with the key stakeholders, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 2,800,000 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017 as a bridging financing mechanism, and requests the Secretary-General to report, at the main part of the seventy-second session, on the use of the commitment authority, including updated information on the sustainable future financing of the Court;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals continues to provide logistical and administrative support to the Residual Special Court, on a cost-reimbursable basis, as appropriate, without prejudice to the mandate of each of the entities, and to report, at the main part of the seventy-second session, on the modalities for the future support of the International Residual Mechanism for the Residual Special Court;

7. *Encourages* all Member States to provide voluntary support for the Residual Special Court;

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[89] A/71/338.

[90] A/71/550.

[91] A/71/386 and Corr.1 and 2.

[92] A/71/613.

IV

Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok

Recalling section XII of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposal for the seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok[93] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[94]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[93]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[94] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Government of Thailand, as the host country, in facilitating the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok;

4. *Welcomes* the positive steps taken towards engaging with the host country, and encourages the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to continue the discussions on cooperation with the host country in this regard;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge, technology and capacity throughout the implementation of the construction projects, as appropriate;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Office of Central Support Services of the Department of Management of the Secretariat, to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects, and in particular to draw from experience and know-how acquired from other capital projects;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to factor the results of the comprehensive review into all stages of the project to facilitate access to the premises and participation in meetings and other activities by persons with disabilities, with the aim of eliminating physical, communications and technical barriers to persons with disabilities at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, while ensuring compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[95]

8. *Also recalls* paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to include detailed information on future rental income in the context of the next progress report;

9. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to include space optimization strategies in project planning, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to look for opportunities to further increase space efficiencies through the application of flexible workplace strategies in a cost-effective manner, in close coordination with the Office of Central Support Services, taking into account local requirements;

10. *Also stresses* the importance of including energy efficiencies in project planning and implementation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts within the scope of the project with a view to, inter alia, minimizing utility consumption and to report thereon in the context of future progress reports;

11. *Further stresses* the continued importance of close interaction and coordination between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Secretariat in New York, including the Office of Central Support Services, to ensure proper guidance, oversight and governance of the project and clear reporting lines;

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[93] A/71/333 and Corr.1.

[94] A/71/570.

[95] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

12. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Office of Internal Oversight Services with providing oversight of the project and to include information on key findings in the context of the annual reports of the Office on its activities;

14. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

15. *Also emphasizes* that contingency provisions approved for construction projects serve to provide necessary safeguards against unforeseen cost overruns during project implementation, underlines that the estimation of project contingencies should be based on the identification of risks associated with the different phases of the project, and requests that the estimated contingencies be separated from the base project cost for presentation purposes only;

16. *Recalls* paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard reaffirms that unused contingency funds may be carried over to subsequent years and reallocated as new risks emerge and older risks are retired, consistent with industry best practices, and that all remaining unused contingency funds shall be returned to Member States at the conclusion of the project;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;

18. *Approves* option C for the seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project, its proposed scope, time frame, implementation plan and estimated maximum cost of 40,019,000 dollars;

19. *Recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated cost estimates in his next report;

20. *Approves* the establishment of six temporary positions (1 P-5, 1 P-4, 2 P-3 and 1 Local level based in Bangkok and 1 P-4 based at Headquarters) related to the dedicated project management team and project support staff, under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, with the cost of the P-4 position at Headquarters being equally shared with the Africa Hall project of the Economic Commission for Africa;

21. *Also approves* an appropriation in the amount of 877,400 dollars, comprising 505,600 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, and 371,800 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

22. *Further approves* the establishment of a multi-year construction-in-progress account for the expenditures of the project from 2017 until its completion;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resource requirements at each stage of the project are based on a thorough review of actual and up-to-date needs on the ground and to provide detailed information in the context of future progress reports;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to mitigate risks, including those associated with currency exchange rates, and to include relevant information in this regard in the context of future progress reports;

25. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at the main part of its seventy-second session, a progress report on the implementation of the project, outlining, inter alia, project expenditure and total costs;

V

Progress in the construction of new office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, and update on the renovation of conference facilities, including Africa Hall

Recalling its resolution 56/270 of 27 March 2002, section IX of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, section I of its resolution 63/263 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243, section III of its resolution 65/259, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section II of its resolution 67/246, section III of its resolution 68/247 A, section V of its resolution 69/262 and section IX of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[96] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[97]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[96]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[97]

3. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as the host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities and the renovation of the conference facilities, including Africa Hall, at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge, technology and capacity throughout the implementation of construction and renovation projects, as appropriate;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to update Member States, through the Office of Central Support Services, on the progress of the construction projects;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the renovation of Africa Hall takes into account the preservation of its historical and architectural integrity, and in this regard stresses the need to involve key stakeholders, including the host Government and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in the implementation of the project;

7. *Stresses* the importance of including energy efficiencies in project planning and implementation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts within the scope of the project with a view to, inter alia, minimizing utility consumption and to report thereon in the context of future progress reports;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of section IX of its resolution 70/248 A, notes the revised business case for the visitors' centre, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to refine the underlying assumptions and the calculation for the projected number of visitors to Africa Hall, to continue his efforts to conduct outreach activities and to report thereon in the context of future progress reports;

9. *Also recalls* paragraph 37 (d) of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in the context of future progress reports, to include updated information on the costs and expected benefits as well as income generated by the visitors' centre;

10. *Notes* the delays resulting from, among other factors, the contract negotiations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make additional efforts to recover the time lost without undermining the quality, scope and time frame of the project;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to mitigate potential risks and to monitor closely the Africa Hall renovation project in order to avoid any further delay;

12. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of section IX of its resolution 70/248 A, notes the delay in the recruitment of the project management team, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to expedite and complete recruitment

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[96] A/71/370.

[97] A/71/571.

for all remaining positions as a matter of priority and in strict compliance with relevant provisions governing recruitment in the Organization and to report thereon in the context of the next progress report;

13. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget;

14. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of section IX of its resolution 70/248 A, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to establish a stakeholders committee and an advisory board in order to strengthen the governance for the proposed Africa Hall renovation project and to report thereon in the context of the next progress report;

16. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of Internal Oversight Services to continue to provide oversight of the construction projects at the Commission, in particular the renovation of Africa Hall, and to continue to include information on key findings in the context of the annual reports of the Office on its activities;

17. *Also emphasizes* that contingency provisions approved for construction projects serve to provide necessary safeguards against unforeseen cost overruns during project implementation, underlines that the estimation of project contingencies should be based on the identification of risks associated with the different phases of the project, and requests that the estimated contingencies be separated from the base project cost for presentation purposes only;

18. *Decides* that unused contingency funds may be carried over to subsequent years and reallocated as new risks emerge and older risks are retired, consistent with industry best practices, and that all remaining unused contingency funds shall be returned to Member States at the conclusion of the project;

19. *Welcomes with appreciation* the voluntary contributions of the Governments of Ethiopia, the host country, Mali and Switzerland to Africa Hall;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of the next progress report;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resource requirements at each stage of the project are based on a thorough review of actual and up-to-date needs on the ground and to provide detailed information in the context of future progress reports;

22. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at the main part of its seventy-second session, a progress report on the implementation of the construction projects and the renovation of the conference facilities, including Africa Hall and the visitors' centre, outlining, inter alia, project expenditure and total costs;

VI

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials

Recalling its resolutions 37/240 of 21 December 1982, 40/257 A to C of 18 December 1985, 45/250 A to C of 21 December 1990 and 48/252 A to C of 26 May 1994, section VIII of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998, its resolutions 55/249 of 12 April 2001, 56/285 of 27 June 2002, 57/289 of 20 December 2002 and 58/264 of 23 December 2003, section III of its resolution 59/282 of 13 April 2005, its resolutions 61/262 of 4 April 2007, 63/259 of 24 December 2008, 64/261 of 29 March 2010 and 65/258 of 24 December 2010 and its decisions 62/547 of 3 April 2008 and 69/553 A of 29 December 2014,

Recalling also Article 32 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly that govern the conditions of service and compensation for the members of the International

Court of Justice and the judges of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice, President and judges of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and judges and ad litem judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia,[98] on conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, judges and ad litem judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda[99] and on the comprehensive review of the pension schemes for the members of the International Court of Justice and judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda,[100] the related reports of the Advisory Committee[101] and the letter dated 1 February 2012 from the President of the International Court of Justice addressed to the President of the General Assembly,[102]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[98,99,100] and the letter dated 1 February 2012 from the President of the International Court of Justice addressed to the President of the General Assembly;[102]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,[101] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[103] and decides to undertake the next comprehensive review at its seventy-fourth session;

4. *Takes note* of paragraphs 29 and 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[104] and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session a comprehensive proposal on options for a pension scheme taking into account, inter alia, the following considerations:

(*a*) Possible new scheme scenarios, and those presented in the report of the Secretary-General,[99] if relevant;

(*b*) Projected estimated costs to the Organization for each scenario compared with the present pension scheme;

(*c*) The expected benefits and disadvantages of each scenario and the views and comments of relevant stakeholders;

as well as the integrity of the Statute of the International Court of Justice and other relevant statutory provisions, the universal character of the Court, principles of independence and equality and the unique character of membership of the Court;

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[98] A/71/201.

[99] A/68/188.

[100] A/66/617.

[101] A/66/709, A/68/515 and Corr.1 and A/71/552.

[102] A/66/726.

[103] A/71/552.

[104] A/66/709.

VII

Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution 70/290, entitled "High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants"

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[105] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[106]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[105]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[106]

VIII

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017 under section 7, International Court of Justice

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[107] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[108]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[107]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[108] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Takes note* of paragraphs 9 and 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves an additional appropriation in the amount of 120,000 dollars under section 7, International Court of Justice, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

IX

Financial implications relating to the administration of justice at the United Nations

Recalling its resolution 71/266 of 23 December 2016 on the administration of justice at the United Nations,

Decides to approve an additional amount of 1,570,700 dollars gross (1,464,600 dollars net), before recosting, reflecting an increase of 1,432,800 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 31,800 dollars under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, and 106,100 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

X

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2016

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly[109] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[110]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 71/264 of 23 December 2016;

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[105] A/71/345.

[106] A/71/597.

[107] A/71/560.

[108] A/71/635.

[109] A/C.5/71/3.

[110] A/71/564.

2. *Takes note* of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;[109]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[110]

XI

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017[111] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[112]

Recalling its resolutions 70/248 A, 70/248 B of 1 April 2016, 70/248 C of 17 June 2016 and 70/249 A and B of 23 December 2015,

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987 and reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General;[111]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[112]

4. *Approves* a net increase of 51,955,700 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2016–2017 and a net increase of 1,187,300 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium 2016–2017, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the first performance report of the Secretary-General;

XII

Supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

Recalling section XI of its resolution 70/248 A and section I of its resolution 70/248 C,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[113] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[114]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[113]

2. *Decides* to establish the following temporary posts:

(*a*) Within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva: under subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development, of section 12, Trade and development, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, four Economic Affairs Officers (1 P-5, 2 P-4 and 1 P-3);

(*b*) Within the Economic Commission for Africa: under subprogramme 4, Statistics, of section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, one Research Officer (P-3); and under subprogramme 9, Social development policy, one Data Specialist (National Professional Officer);

(*c*) Within the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: under Executive direction and management of section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, one Programme Officer (P-4) and one Environmental Affairs Officer (P-3);

(*d*) Within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: under Executive direction and management of section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, one Economic Affairs Officer (P-3); under subprogramme 10, Planning of public administration, of section 21, one Economic Affairs Officer (P-4); and under subprogramme 11, Statistics, of section 21, one Statistical Affairs Officer (P-3);

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[111] A/71/576.

[112] A/71/680.

[113] A/71/534.

[114] A/71/632.

(*e*) Within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat: under subprogramme 4, Statistics, of section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, two Senior Statisticians (P-5); and under subprogramme 9, Financing for development, of section 9, one Chief of Unit (P-5) and two Economic Affairs Officers (P-3 and P-4);

3. *Also decides* to approve the requirements for the strengthening of the regular programme of technical cooperation in the amount of 5 million dollars for 2017 under section 23, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect, in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, an increase of 5 million dollars under section 23, Regular programme of technical cooperation;

5. *Decides* to appropriate 6,142,600 dollars in relation to expenditures in 2016 under the commitment authority approved by the General Assembly in section XI of its resolution 70/248 A;

6. *Also decides* to appropriate 319,000 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for 2017;

7. *Further decides* to appropriate the amount of 957,100 dollars for 2017 under section 9, Economic and social affairs, 407,600 dollars under section 12, Trade and development, 95,700 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, 148,000 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, and 195,200 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 210,100 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, for 2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XIII

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during 2016

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[115] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[116]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[115]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[116] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* the establishment of six temporary posts, effective from 1 January 2017 until 31 December 2030, including four temporary posts (1 P-4, 2 P-3 and 1 Local level) under section 22, Economic and social development in Western Asia and two temporary posts (P-4) under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

4. *Also approves* an appropriation amounting to 3,428,200 dollars, comprising 319,000 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 597,000 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs, 488,600 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, 130,000 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 1,893,600 dollars under section 22, Economic and social development in Western Asia, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

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[115] A/71/401 and Add.1.

[116] A/71/633.

5. *Further approves* the amount of 57,100 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XIV

Enterprise resource planning project, Umoja

Recalling section II of its resolution 60/283, section II of its resolution 63/262, its resolution 64/243, section II.A of its resolution 65/259, its resolution 66/246, section III of its resolution 66/263 of 21 June 2012, section III of its resolution 67/246, its resolution 68/246, sections IV and VI of its resolution 69/274 A and section XVII of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the eighth progress report of the Secretary-General on the enterprise resource planning project,[117] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the fifth annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system[118] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[119]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[117] and the note by the Secretary-General;[118]

2. *Also takes note* of the findings of the report of the Board of Auditors,[118] and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[119] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of Umoja since the previous progress report, and the effort of staff and managers in the implementation of Umoja Foundation and Extension 1 to date;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to monitor key milestones and the overall timeline for the implementation of Umoja by identifying and proactively managing current as well as any emerging key risks to the achievement of the project's objectives and full implementation by December 2018, as approved by the General Assembly in section III of its resolution 67/246 and as further outlined in the Secretary-General's eighth progress report;

6. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that lessons learned from previous deployments continue to be fully taken into account in preparing future roll-outs in order to ensure smoother deployments and avoid extensive stabilization efforts that would result in further delays, cost escalation and other risks, and encourages the Secretary-General to incorporate such lessons learned in his planning and preparations for future phases of the project;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General in his roll-out plan for the implementation of Umoja to conduct a thorough and objective assessment of the Organization's readiness for business change in order to avoid unforeseen impacts and unnecessary additional post-implementation reviews that could lead to deviations from the project's plans, cost projections and expected benefits;

8. *Reiterates* that the successful implementation of Umoja requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure this through performance management and accountability mechanisms, especially at senior levels;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to strengthen in-house capacity and expertise on the enterprise resource planning system and to develop, as a matter of priority, a detailed action plan to ensure the transfer of knowledge from consultants to programme and project staff, ensuring that knowledge acquired is maintained within the Organization, and reducing dependency on and resource requirements for contractual services, which represent a large proportion of project costs, and to provide detailed information thereon in the context of his next report;

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[117] A/71/390.

[118] A/71/180.

[119] A/71/628.

10. *Regrets* that inadequate training prior to deployment contributed to serious problems and delays in each phase of the Umoja project, notes the steps taken thus far to address gaps in training and in this regard stresses the importance of effective and high-quality training for the successful implementation of Umoja, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that senior managers adopt a comprehensive and sustained approach to training and capacity development in their work units;

11. *Also regrets* the delays in the planning and implementation of Umoja Extension 2 and the additional funding requirements, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to implement the full scope of the project as set forth in the eighth progress report, without further delay and cost escalation, and to provide to the General Assembly detailed information on the implementation of all of the remaining Umoja Extension 2 functions and processes at the main part of its seventy-second session;

12. *Recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard reiterates the need for strong project planning and management in order to ensure that the Umoja project remains on track without further disruption and delay;

13. *Notes* that insufficient progress has been made in the development of a benefit realization plan, and requests the Secretary-General to accelerate the development of such a plan, taking fully into account the relevant recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and to report thereon in the next progress report, without prejudice to established budgetary procedures and the prerogative of the Fifth Committee, which is entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in developing realistic benefit realization plans for implementing entities, to use a common methodology and provide details on both qualitative and quantitative benefits, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session;

15. *Recalls* paragraphs 37, 46 and 55 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes that the Umoja project represents one of the largest and highest-cost business transformation initiatives undertaken by the Organization, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session an updated business case for the Umoja project, including an analysis of the direct and indirect costs and benefits, taking into account all the relevant recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a comprehensive briefing to the General Assembly on the progress of the Umoja project, including but not limited to details on Umoja Extension 2, the updated business case for the project and other relevant issues at the second part of the resumed seventy-first session of the Assembly;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to eliminate cost overruns through efficiency measures and sound project management and to avoid any further upward revision of the budget during the remaining project schedule, up to the time at which Umoja is fully deployed;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and regrets that little progress has been made to respond to the repeated requests of the General Assembly to maintain a detailed accounting of the indirect costs absorbed by departments or to conduct an analysis of the total cost of ownership of the Umoja project, which is a key input for informed decision-making on investments, and in this regard regrets that the lack of information on the effective implementation costs of the project reflects weakness in the governance, leadership and accountability of the Umoja project;

19. *Approves* the net additional revised requirements for 2016–2017 of 26,811,400 dollars, as presented in the eighth progress report, based on the mainstreaming, reorganization and reprofiling of resources presented in section VI of the report;

20. *Takes note* of paragraphs 56 and 57 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to absorb 4,021,800 dollars within existing resources under section 29, Management and support services, prioritizing section 29A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

22. *Notes* that resource requirements in the amount of 16,623,000 dollars will be included in the subsequent requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;

23. *Also notes* that requirements in the amount of 6,166,600 dollars will be funded from extrabudgetary resources in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017;

XV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions and twenty-fourth special session

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[120] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[121]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[120]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[121]

3. *Approves* the establishment of 10 posts (1 P-5, 3 P-4 and 6 P-3) under section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, with effect from 1 January 2017;

4. *Also approves* an additional appropriation, in the amount of 14,784,500 dollars, comprising 2,481,300 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 12,259,500 dollars under section 24, Human rights, 8,400 dollars under section 28, Public information, and 35,300 dollars under section 29F, Administration, Geneva, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

5. *Further approves* the amount of 147,600 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XVI

Progress on the implementation of a flexible workplace at United Nations Headquarters

Recalling section V of its resolution 67/246, section III of its resolution 67/254 A of 12 April 2013, section IV of its resolution 68/247 B and section VII of its resolution 69/274 A and its decision 70/553 B of 1 April 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[122] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[123]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[122]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[123] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to analyse the lessons learned from the outcomes of the pilot programme and to report thereon in the context of the next progress report;

4. *Notes* that flexible workplace strategies in the United Nations should be aimed at improving the overall productivity and efficiency of the Organization, as well as the staff workplace environment;

5. *Recalls* paragraphs 6 and 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to assess in detail the impact of the flexible workplace pilot on productivity and provide reliable qualitative and quantitative benefit indicators as well as other factors for the improvement of overall productivity and staff well-being, and to report thereon in the context of the next progress report;

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[120] A/71/623.

[121] A/71/688.

[122] A/70/708.

[123] A/70/7/Add.45.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full compliance with its decisions and full cooperation with the implementation plan for the project, while meeting the needs of staff and ensuring their well-being and productivity;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee and regrets the wide variations in projected costs for the project, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to vigorously revisit the cost projections for the entire project and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the next progress report;

8. *Urges* the Secretary-General to keep the project under scrutiny in all relevant aspects, including the scope, schedule, costs and financial benefits, to ensure that they are in line with the mandates provided by the General Assembly, and to report thereon at the main part of the seventy-second session in the context of the next progress report;

9. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly no later than at the main part of its seventy-second session a detailed and realistic implementation plan for the full scope of the project;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue with the implementation of flexible workplace strategies in New York in 2017, with a maximum number of 140 staff per floor, and to report thereon at the main part of the seventy-second session, without prejudice to any decision by the General Assembly on the revised implementation plan for the full scope of the project;

11. *Decides* that flexible workplace strategies shall not be implemented in rental properties where the rental contracts are due to expire without prospect of renewal;

12. *Emphasizes* the central coordination and oversight role of the Office of Central Support Services in the management of rental properties;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to seek complementarities between flexible workplace strategies and flexible working arrangements, and in this regard requests him, under the guidance of the interdisciplinary working group, to provide information on arrangements for staff to work in remote locations, including from home, with an emphasis on addressing the requirements of staff with special needs, including those with disabilities, the elderly, expecting parents and parents with newborn or young children;

14. *Decides* that flexible working arrangements shall be an integral part of all flexible workplace strategies, and requests the Secretary-General to update his bulletin on flexible working arrangements;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the detailed and realistic implementation plan includes linkages to ongoing reform initiatives, such as the full deployment of the Umoja enterprise resource planning project and the study on long-term accommodation needs at United Nations Headquarters;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue ensuring that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies takes into account the needs of language staff in order to continue to ensure that the services provided to Member States meet the highest standard of quality;

17. *Decides* that the flexible workplace strategy shall be included in future reports of the strategic capital review;

18. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to spend 10 million dollars in 2017 for the application of flexible workplace in the Secretariat Building, to be funded from within existing resources;

19. *Approves* the continuation of three temporary positions (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 1 General Service (Other level)) for the project team;

20. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 470,200 dollars under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

21. *Also decides* to appropriate the amount of 63,000 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XVII

Global service delivery model for *the United Nations Secretariat*

Recalling section III of its resolution 67/246, paragraph 13 of section VII of its resolution 69/262, paragraph 19 of its resolution 69/273 of 2 April 2015 and section XIX of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[124] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[125]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[124]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[125] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of section XIX of its resolution 70/248 A, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that budget proposals related to qualitative and quantitative benefits of the development and implementation of the global service delivery model are presented with a clear benefit realization plan;

4. *Also recalls* paragraph 50 (c) of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-second session a report on the global service delivery model containing a comprehensive and fully developed proposal that continues to take into account the views of all stakeholders;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring that the global service delivery model fully takes into account lessons learned and best practices of all ongoing business transformation initiatives so as to maximize benefits and avoid possible duplication and overlap, and requests the Secretary-General to provide in his detailed proposal information on the efforts to ensure such coherence, including information on the use of common infrastructure and resources;

6. *Also reiterates* that the global service delivery model should be limited to the provision of administrative support services and that the proposal should take into account the use of all existing United Nations infrastructure, including those away from Headquarters;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report concrete measures to ensure that offices away from Headquarters, regional commissions, offices and departments retain their full decision-making authority so as to effectively execute their mandates;

8. *Takes note* of paragraphs 44, 45, 49, 50 (b) and 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

9. *Decides* to establish a dedicated global service delivery model project team comprising six positions: one D-1, one P-5 and four P-4;

Programme budget

10. *Approves* an appropriation in the amount of 210,100 dollars under section 29A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, representing the regular budget share until 31 December 2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for the biennium 2016–2017;

Support account for peacekeeping operations

11. *Notes* that resource requirements in the amount of 868,500 dollars will be included in the subsequent requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;

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[124] A/71/417.

[125] A/71/666.

Extrabudgetary resources

12. *Notes* that requirements in the amount of 322,200 dollars will be funded from extrabudgetary resources in the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017;

XVIII

Strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva

Recalling section XI of its resolution 64/243, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section V of its resolution 68/247 A, sections III and VII of its resolution 69/262 and section X of its resolution 70/248 A,

Having considered the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva[126] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[127]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[126]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[127] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the continued support of the Government of Switzerland for the construction project in Geneva;

4. *Reaffirms* the proposed project scope, schedule and estimated cost of the strategic heritage plan in the maximum amount of 836,500,000 Swiss francs for the period from 2014 to 2023;

5. *Stresses* the importance of effective governance, oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved within budget;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 7 and 8 of section X of its resolution 70/248 A, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to include information on how the recommendations and observations of the Advisory Board are incorporated into the overall management and strategic oversight structure of the project;

7. *Emphasizes* that the Advisory Board shall be independent and impartial, with its membership reflecting a wide geographical representation while ensuring the required expertise;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the strategic heritage plan is fully completed within the project scope, schedule and overall cost approved in its resolution 70/248 A;

9. *Reiterates* that space optimization is one of the key objectives of the project, and stresses that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies is an important change management initiative requiring visible senior management sponsorship and leadership and staff engagement;

10. *Notes* the preparations for the implementation of flexible workplace strategies, and urges the Secretary-General to incorporate his conclusions and findings into the design of the full project, including the potential for enhanced space utilization, taking into account the constraints in the existing buildings;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to gather data on building occupancy utilization throughout the entire site of the Palais des Nations in order to increase space efficiencies above the 700 additional spaces already identified, including by setting optimized space utilization targets, and to report on the concrete steps taken in this regard in the context of the next progress report;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the application of flexible workplace strategies at the Palais des Nations takes into account staff welfare and productivity, the physical characteristics and the specific heritage preservation needs, as well as ongoing business transformation initiatives, in a cost-effective manner;

13. *Welcomes* the development of an indoor accessibility master plan, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the implementation of the strategic heritage plan takes into account measures to eliminate

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[126] A/71/403 and Corr.1.

[127] A/71/622.

physical, communications and technical barriers to persons with disabilities, taking into account relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, while ensuring compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[95] and to report on this subject in future annual progress reports;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the strategic heritage plan is completed within the approved budget and the envisaged time schedule;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes the increased provision for contingencies, and reiterates that such contingencies should be based on the identification of risks associated with the different phases of the project;

16. *Also recalls* paragraph 31 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the provision for contingencies under tight scrutiny and to include complete and consolidated information, including justifications in respect of any increase or decrease of this provision, in the context of the next progress report;

17. *Invites* the Secretary-General to take advantage of the loan package offered by the host country and to ensure its expeditious disbursement in close coordination with the host State in the course of the project, and requests the Secretary-General to present a detailed loan repayment plan in the context of the next progress report;

18. *Decides* to continue to use the multi-year construction-in-progress account established within the regular budget for expenditures related to the strategic heritage plan in 2017;

19. *Also decides* to revert to the establishment of an assessment scheme and the currency of appropriation and assessment for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-second session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated detailed information on these issues;

20. *Further decides* to revert to the establishment of the multi-year special account for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-second session;

21. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of section X of its resolution 70/248 A and paragraph 38 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to avoid negative interest charges being applied to the Organization's currency holdings;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures to mitigate risks, including those associated with currency exchange rates, and to include relevant information in this regard in the context of future progress reports;

23. *Notes* the efforts undertaken to pursue opportunities to valorize real estate owned by the Organization in Geneva, and urges the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to optimize the potential income to be generated to reduce the overall assessment on Member States for the project, while preserving the long-term interests of the United Nations in Geneva, through long-term community-oriented leasing arrangements;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide detailed information on land valorization tasks in the next progress report;

25. *Appreciates* the existing voluntary contributions received from Member States to finance the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, as well as donations by private entities, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, in order to reduce the overall assessments on Member States;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore the possibility of attracting additional United Nations entities to be accommodated at the renovated Palais des Nations, and requests him to propose ways of factoring future rental income in the overall scheme of financing of the strategic heritage plan project in the next progress report;

27. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are handled appropriately during the design and renovation stages of the strategic heritage plan at the Palais des Nations, and also requests him to cooperate with those Member States that wish to take care of their gifts of works of art, masterpieces and other items;

28. *Approves* the establishment of one new position of Procurement Officer (P-4), effective 1 January 2017;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that resource requirements at each stage of the project are based on a thorough review of actual and up-to-date needs on the ground, and requests him to provide detailed information thereon in the context of future progress reports;

30. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 10,931,800 dollars (equivalent to 10,494,500 Swiss francs) for 2017, under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at the main part of its seventy-second session, a progress report on the implementation of the project, outlining, inter alia, project expenditure and total cost;

XIX

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling section IV of its resolution 69/262, section II of its resolution 69/274 B of 25 June 2015, section XX of its resolution 70/248 A and section V of its resolution 70/248 B,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[128] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,[129]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[128]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,[129] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms its commitment* to consider the review of the arrangement on the funding and backstopping of the special political missions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and expresses its commitment to consider this matter, with a view to making a decision, without prejudging the outcome, no later than at the main part of its seventy-second session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;

5. *Expresses concern* about the growth in the number of senior-level positions in special political missions;

6. *Takes note* of paragraph 40 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[130]

Thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys and special advisers of the Secretary-General

Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar

7. *Notes* that the proposed budget for the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar is no longer mandated, and decides not to approve the funding requested;

Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus

8. *Takes note* of paragraphs 14 and 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[130] and decides to establish two positions: one Political Affairs Officer (P-3) and one Administrative Assistant (Field Service);

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[128] A/71/365 and Add.1–7 and Add.7/Corr.1.

[129] A/71/595 and Add.1–7.

[130] A/71/595/Add.1.

Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria

9. *Takes note* of paragraphs 11, 31 and 40 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[130]

10. *Recalls* paragraphs 19 and 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to abolish seven positions that have been vacant for two years or more;

11. *Also recalls* paragraphs 21 to 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve an additional 27 positions, 9 in Damascus, comprising two Political Affairs Officers (P-3), one Interpreter (P-3) for servicing the meetings of the Special Envoy and six Local level positions (1 Language Translation Assistant, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Assistant to coordinate with the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 1 Team Assistant to provide administrative support to the Logistics Officer, 1 Information Technology Assistant to provide technical support on relevant hardware and systems applications and 1 Telecommunications Technician), and 18 in Geneva;

12. *Further recalls* paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish two positions, one for a Human Resources Officer (P-4) in the Field Personnel Division of the Department of Field Support in New York and one Chief Human Resources Officer (P-4) in Geneva;

13. *Recalls* paragraphs 23 and 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

14. *Takes note* of paragraph 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen

15. *Decides* not to establish the positions listed in annex I to the present resolution;

16. *Also decides* to reduce the resources for air transportation for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen by 30 per cent;

17. *Takes note* of paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[131] and decides not to approve the establishment of a Senior Electoral Affairs Officer position (P-5);

18. *Recalls* paragraphs 15, 17, 19, 21 to 23 and 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

19. *Takes note* of paragraph 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to reduce the proposed requirements under official travel by 20 per cent;

20. *Decides* to apply a 42 per cent vacancy rate for new Field Service, General Service, National Professional Officer and Local level positions in the mission;

21. *Takes note* of paragraphs 18, 25, 52 and 53 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish the following positions: one Deputy Head of Mission (at the level of Assistant Secretary-General) and four associated staff members (2 P-4, 1 Field Service and 1 Local level), one Principal Security Sector Reform Officer (D-1) and one Chief of Mission Support (D-1), and decides to establish one Chief of Mission Support (P-5);

22. *Decides* not to approve the proposed reclassification of the Director (D-2) to Deputy Head of Mission (Assistant Secretary-General);

23. *Also decides* not to approve the proposed establishment of the Chief of Mission Support position at the D-1 level, and decides instead to approve the establishment of the Chief of Mission Support position at the P-5 level;

Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Conflict Prevention, including in Burundi

24. *Notes* that there are multiple United Nations entities involved in addressing conflict prevention and mediation in the region, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to bring about synergies and efficiencies;

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[131] A/71/595/Add.6.

25. *Recognizes* the important role played by the regional and subregional actors in conflict prevention and mediation, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure United Nations partnership, cooperation and coordination with and support for those actors, in accordance with the relevant mandates;

26. *Commends* the work of the East African Community in facilitating mediation under the Inter-Burundi Dialogue to address the political challenges, supports the need for continued ownership by the East African Community of this process, and encourages the international community to continue to provide support, as appropriate;

27. *Stresses* that it is important that the United Nations and its staff implement the given mandate by strictly adhering to the principles of impartiality and observe the highest level of professionalism;

28. *Decides* to establish for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017 the 33 positions under cluster I listed in annex II to the present resolution;

29. *Also decides*, for 2017, to maintain the level of resources for the Office at the same level as for 2016;

Thematic cluster II: sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels

Implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)

30. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[132] and decides to apply a 30 per cent vacancy rate for the positions established to support the implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015);

31. *Reiterates* the decision contained in paragraph 48 of its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, and decides to reduce the resources for travel of staff by 15 per cent;

Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

32. *Takes note* of paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[132]

33. *Decides* to establish a Legal Affairs Officer position (P-4);

Thematic cluster III: United Nations offices, peacebuilding support offices, integrated offices and commissions

34. *Takes note* of paragraphs 23, 28, 47 and 72 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[133]

United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next budget submission, to include detailed information on the efficiency and effectiveness of mandate delivery arising from the merging of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel;

United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau

36. *Decides* to establish, in the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau, one Political Affairs Officer position (P-4) to strengthen coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and one Rule of Law Officer position (P-4);

United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

37. *Takes note* of paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[133] and decides to establish two Political Affairs Officer positions (P-4);

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[132] A/71/595/Add.2.

[133] A/71/595/Add.3.

38. *Recalls* paragraph 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee and paragraph 23 of section XX of General Assembly resolution 70/248 A, and decides to establish eight Radio Operator posts (general temporary assistance) for six months;

39. *Takes note* of paragraph 72 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve 618,560 dollars for consultancy for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia in 2017;

40. *Also takes note* of paragraph 72 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve 1,242,430 dollars for official travel for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia in 2017;

41. *Further takes note* of paragraph 72 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve 9,120,400 dollars for air transportation for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia in 2017;

United Nations Support Mission in Libya

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider holding consultations with Government of Libya on the Government-provided personnel in the security and military sectors;

43. *Recalls* paragraphs 44, 55 and 57 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[133]

44. *Decides* not to establish the positions listed in annex III to the present resolution;

45. *Takes note* of paragraph 33 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to apply a 25 per cent delayed deployment rate to the United Nations Guard Unit and to adjust the non-post resources of the Mission accordingly;

46. *Also takes note* of paragraph 58 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to establish a total budget for air transportation of 4,127,000 dollars;

47. *Decides* to apply a 50 per cent vacancy rate for new Field Service, General Service, National Professional Officer and Local level positions in the Mission;

United Nations Mission in Colombia

48. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of the report of the Secretary-General,[134] and recognizes the contribution of unarmed observers to the establishment of the Mission, primarily from member countries of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States;

49. *Also recalls* paragraphs 15 and 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[135] and decides to approve the establishment of one Political Affairs Officer position (P-4) and one Planning and Programme Officer position (P-3);

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

50. *Recalls* paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan[136] and paragraph 27 of the report of the Committee on the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq,[137] continues to note with concern the lack of clarity with regard to the roles of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq support offices for Kuwait and the Kuwait Joint Support Office, regrets the failure of clarification in the current report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a further review of the structures, functions and capacity of the offices in order to ensure their services and accountability to both missions and to report thereon in the context of the next budget submission;

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[134] A/71/365/Add.7 and Corr.1.

[135] A/71/595/Add.7.

[136] A/71/595/Add.4.

[137] A/71/595/Add.5.

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

51. *Notes with concern* the continued high cost of bank transaction fees for the Mission, and requests the Secretary-General, in the next report to the General Assembly, to provide further information on possible cost savings that could be achieved through a change of arrangements;

52. *Takes note* of paragraphs 19, 27 and 34 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[136]

53. *Also takes note* of paragraph 19 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to approve four new positions (1 P-2, 2 National Professional Officers and 1 Local level) in the Mission;

54. *Notes* the changes to the regional and provisional offices, and decides to abolish 10 Local level positions;

55. *Decides* not to approve the establishment of new United Nations Volunteer positions in the Mission;

56. *Also decides* to apply a vacancy rate of 14 per cent for international staff, 10 per cent for national staff, 17 per cent for military personnel, 20 per cent for police personnel, 22 per cent for United Nations Volunteers and 5 per cent for Local level staff;

57. *Takes note* of paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve 131,100 dollars for consultancy;

58. *Also takes note* of paragraph 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to increase the flight hours for fixed-wing aircraft;

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

59. *Notes* the cost-sharing arrangements between the Mission and the United Nations country team for security arrangements in Iraq, as well as other common services, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken by the Mission to ensure full and timely reimbursement by the United Nations country team;

60. *Expresses its belief* that the provision of laundry and other services to international staff on a non-reimbursement basis is not an appropriate use of Mission funds, and decides to reduce the amount of resources authorized for other supplies, services and equipment by 5 per cent;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen the Mission's national staffing complement, whenever appropriate;

62. *Recalls* paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[137] and decides not to approve the abolishment of 11 national positions (2 National Professional Officers and 9 Local level);

63. *Takes note* of paragraphs 21, 25 and 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

64. *Also takes note* of paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides not to establish the position of Associate Conduct and Discipline Officer (P-2);

65. *Further takes note* of paragraph 25 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve 200,000 dollars for consultancy;

66. *Approves* the budgets in the amount of 639,527,300 dollars for the 33 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council and 741,400 dollars for the share of special political missions in the budget of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, for the biennium 2016–2017;

67. *Also approves* a charge of 548,525,100 dollars (net of staff assessment) against the equivalent amount of the undistributed balance in the provision for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

68. *Decides* to appropriate, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213, an additional amount of 101,831,500 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, after taking into account the estimated overexpenditure in 2016 amounting to 10,087,900 dollars;

69. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 4,694,500 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

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Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 10,277,700 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

Annex I

Positions not to be established under thematic cluster I in the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen

Number	*Category level*	*Title*
Office of the Chief of Staff[a]		
1	D-1	Chief of Staff
1	P-5	Senior Planning Officer
1	P-3	Coordination Officer
1	Field Service	Programme Assistant
1	Local level	Language Assistant
Office of the Special Envoy (New York)		
1	P-4	Political Affairs Officer
1	General Service (Other level)	Administrative Assistant
Office of the Deputy Head of Mission[a]		
1	P-4	Legal Officer
1	P-4	Political Affairs Officer
1	Field Service	Administrative Assistant
1	Local level	Team Assistant
Political Affairs Section		
1	P-5	Senior Electoral Affairs Officer
Security Sector Section		
1	D-1	Principal Security Sector Reform Officer
1	P-3	Liaison Officer
Finance and budget		
1	Local level	Finance and Budget Assistant
Human resources		
1	Local level	Human Resources Assistant
Property management		
1	Field Service	Claims Assistant
Backstopping		
1	P-4	Human Resources Officer
Total: 18		

[a] Proposed new sections not approved; related staff will be redeployed to the Office of the Special Envoy.

Annex II

Positions to be established under thematic cluster I in the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Conflict Prevention, including in Burundi

Number	*Category/level*	*Title*	*Location*
Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General			
1	Under-Secretary-General	Special Adviser to the Secretary-General	New York
1	P-5	Special Assistant	New York
1	P-5	Senior Political Affairs Officer	New York
1	P-4	Political Affairs Officer	New York
1	General Service (Other level)	Personal Assistant	New York
Mediation Support Team			
1	P-5	Senior Political Affairs Officer	Nairobi
1	P-4	Political Affairs Officer	Nairobi
Office of the Head of Office			
1	D-2	Head of Office	Bujumbura
1	P-4	Public Information Officer	Bujumbura
2	National Professional Officer	Media Officers	Bujumbura
1	Field Service	Administrative Assistant	Bujumbura
Dialogue Support Unit			
1	D-1	Principal Political Affairs Officer	Bujumbura
1	P-5	Senior Information Analyst	Bujumbura
1	P-5	Senior Political Affairs Officer	Bujumbura
1	P-4	Political Affairs Officer	Bujumbura
1	P-3	Political Affairs Officer	Bujumbura
1	D-1	Principal Security Sector Reform Officer	Bujumbura
1	P-4	Rule of Law Officer	Bujumbura
Mission Support Unit			
1	P-5	Chief of Mission Support	Bujumbura
1	P-3	Logistics Officer	Bujumbura
1	Field Service	Facilities Management Assistant	Bujumbura
1	Field Service	Administrative Officer	Bujumbura
1	Field Service	Information Systems Officer	Bujumbura
1	Local level	Administrative Assistant	Bujumbura
1	Local level	Supply/Logistics Assistant	Bujumbura
3	Local level	Drivers	Bujumbura
Staff Security and Safety Unit			
1	P-4	Chief Security Officer	Bujumbura
3	Field Service	Security Officers	Bujumbura
		Total: 33	

Annex III

Positions not to be established in the United Nations Support Mission in Libya

Number	*Category level*	*Title*
Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General		
1	P-3	Special Assistant
1	United Nations Volunteer	Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Political		
1	Assistant Secretary-General	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Political
1	P-4	Special Assistant
1	Field Service	Administrative Assistant
1	United Nations Volunteer	Administrative Assistant
Office of the Chief of Staff		
1	P-4	Legal Affairs Officer
1	Local level	Administrative Assistant
Office of the Senior Military Adviser		
1	P-4	Special Assistant
Joint Mission Analysis Cell		
1	P-3	Geographic Information Systems Officer
Women's empowerment		
1	National Officer	Gender Affairs Officer
Human rights, rule of law		
1	P-3	Human Rights Officer
1	Field Service	Administrative Assistant
1	United Nations Volunteer	Human Rights Officer
Security Institutions Division		
1	P-5	Senior Police Adviser
1	P-3	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Officer
1	United Nations Volunteer	Security Sector Reform Officer
Security Section		
1	P-3	Coordination Officer
7	Field Service	Security Officer
3	Local level	Security Assistant
Mission support		
1	P-3	Logistics Officer, New York
1	P-3	Human Resources Officer
2	Field Service	Warehouse/Distribution Clerk
3	Local level	Warehouse/Distribution Clerk
2	United Nations Volunteers	Air Operations Officer
	Total staffing reduction: 37 positions	

RESOLUTIONS 71/273 A–C

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/716, para. 65)

71/273. Programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

A

REVISED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2016–2017

The General Assembly

1. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2016–2017, the amount of 5,408,719,500 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 70/249 A of 23 December 2015, 70/248 B of 1 April 2016 and 70/248 C of 17 June 2016 shall be adjusted by budget appropriations of 205,442,500 dollars, as follows:

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 70/249 A to C and 70/248 B and C*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised appropriation*
			(United States dollars)	
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*			
1.	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	117 428 000	(472 500)	116 955 500
2.	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	618 122 200	12 819 100	630 941 300
	Subtotal, part I	**735 550 200**	**12 346 600**	**747 896 800**
	Part II. *Political affairs*			
3.	Political affairs	1 240 398 000	103 061 200	1 343 459 200
4.	Disarmament	24 950 700	(81 800)	24 868 900
5.	Peacekeeping operations	109 624 000	24 400	109 648 400
6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	7 162 300	60 300	7 222 600
	Subtotal, part II	**1 382 135 000**	**103 064 100**	**1 485 199 100**
	Part III. *International justice and law*			
7.	International Court of Justice	45 975 700	(161 000)	45 814 700
8.	Legal affairs	48 845 900	12 693 700	61 539 600
	Subtotal, part III	**94 821 600**	**12 532 700**	**107 354 300**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*			
9.	Economic and social affairs	157 717 800	4 350 800	162 068 600
10.	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	10 912 500	(149 500)	10 763 000
11.	United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	16 798 300	(192 500)	16 605 800
12.	Trade and development	135 159 400	3 262 800	138 422 200
13.	International Trade Centre	35 697 300	1 394 500	37 091 800
14.	Environment	35 331 400	1 765 900	37 097 300
15.	Human settlements	20 806 800	1 267 600	22 074 400

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 70/249 A to C and 70/248 B and C*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised appropriation*
		(United States dollars)		
16.	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	36 917 600	272 600	37 190 200
17.	UN-Women	15 256 400	(166 700)	15 089 700
	Subtotal, part IV	**464 597 500**	**11 805 500**	**476 403 000**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*			
18.	Economic and social development in Africa	153 650 300	(298 300)	153 352 000
19.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	94 646 200	694 000	95 340 200
20.	Economic development in Europe	64 870 900	1 067 600	65 938 500
21.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	105 299 700	1 583 000	106 882 700
22.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	69 369 400	666 900	70 036 300
23.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	54 763 400	4 668 600	59 432 000
	Subtotal, part V	**542 599 900**	**8 381 800**	**550 981 700**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*			
24.	Human rights	191 574 900	20 459 400	212 034 300
25.	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	82 204 900	3 157 700	85 362 600
26.	Palestine refugees	55 592 900	(455 600)	55 137 300
27.	Humanitarian assistance	34 725 900	191 000	34 916 900
	Subtotal, part VI	**364 098 600**	**23 352 500**	**387 451 100**
	Part VII. *Public information*			
28.	Public information	188 021 900	(460 200)	187 561 700
	Subtotal, part VII	**188 021 900**	**(460 200)**	**187 561 700**
	Part VIII. *Common support services*			
29A.	Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management	22 677 000	33 900	22 710 900
29B.	Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts	35 043 500	(337 400)	34 706 100
29C.	Office of Human Resources Management	70 800 100	(511 800)	70 288 300
29D.	Office of Central Support Services	166 585 300	(55 900)	166 529 400
29E.	Office of Information and Communications Technology	98 461 800	(690 800)	97 771 000
29F.	Administration, Geneva	134 658 700	4 719 200	139 377 900
29G.	Administration, Vienna	33 204 200	826 600	34 030 800
29H.	Administration, Nairobi	28 157 300	1 248 400	29 405 700
	Subtotal, part VIII	**589 587 900**	**5 232 200**	**594 820 100**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*			
30.	Internal oversight	40 213 800	(65 400)	40 148 400
	Subtotal, part IX	**40 213 800**	**(65 400)**	**40 148 400**

Section		*Amount approved in resolutions 70/249 A to C and 70/248 B and C*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised appropriation*
		(United States dollars)		
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
31.	Jointly financed administrative activities	11 448 200	55 400	11 503 600
32.	Special expenses	153 244 800	–	153 244 800
	Subtotal, part X	**164 693 000**	**55 400**	**164 748 400**
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*			
33.	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	97 091 100	12 684 800	109 775 900
	Subtotal, part XI	**97 091 100**	**12 684 800**	**109 775 900**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*			
34.	Safety and security	234 295 400	3 988 000	238 283 400
	Subtotal, part XII	**234 295 400**	**3 988 000**	**238 283 400**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*			
35.	Development Account	28 398 800	–	28 398 800
	Subtotal, part XIII	**28 398 800**	**–**	**28 398 800**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*			
36.	Staff assessment	482 614 800	12 524 500	495 139 300
	Subtotal, part XIV	**482 614 800**	**12 524 500**	**495 139 300**
	Total	**5 408 719 500**	**205 442 500**	**5 614 162 000**

B

REVISED INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2016–2017

The General Assembly

1. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2016–2017, the estimates of income of 531,885,700 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 70/249 A of 23 December 2015, 70/248 B of 1 April 2016 and 70/248 C of 17 June 2016 shall be increased by 6,824,800 dollars, as follows:

Income section		*Amount approved in resolutions 70/249 A to C and 70/248 B and C*	*Increase (decrease)*	*Revised estimates*
		(United States dollars)		
1.	Income from staff assessment	486 952 700	12 586 600	499 539 300
	Total, income section 1	**486 952 700**	**12 586 600**	**499 539 300**
2.	General income	41 226 700	415 600	41 642 300
3.	Services to the public	3 706 300	(6 177 400)	(2 471 100)
	Total, income sections 2 and 3	**44 933 000**	**(5 761 800)**	**39 171 200**
	Grand total	**531 885 700**	**6 824 800**	**538 710 500**

C

FINANCING OF THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2017

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the year 2017:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 2,913,264,800 United States dollars and consisting of 2,700,897,200 dollars, being half of the appropriation initially approved for the biennium 2016–2017 by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/249 A of 23 December 2015, the additional amount of 6,925,100 dollars for the biennium appropriated in its resolutions 70/248 B of 1 April 2016 and 70/248 C of 17 June 2016, and 205,422,500 dollars, being the increase approved in paragraph 1 of resolution A above, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[138] as follows:

(*a*) 136,734,900 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 22,466,500 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in its resolutions 70/249 B of 23 December 2015, 70/248 B and 70/248 C;

(ii) 5,761,800 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment income approved for the biennium in paragraph 1 of resolution B above;

(iii) 120,030,200 dollars, being the surplus resulting from the final expenditure for the programme budget for the biennium 2014–2015;

(*b*) 2,776,529,900 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolution 70/245 of 23 December 2015 on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 254,240,100 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 243,207,400 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 70/249 B;

(*b*) 537,900 dollars, being the estimated increase in income for staff assessment approved by the Assembly in its resolutions 70/248 B and 70/248 C;

(*c*) 12,586,600 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in paragraph 1 of resolution B above;

(*d*) 2,091,800 dollars, being the decrease in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2014–2015, compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 70/240 B of 23 December 2015.

RESOLUTION 71/274

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 23 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/717, para. 8)

71/274. Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2018–2019

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit, in off-budget years, an outline of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium,

Reaffirming also section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming further rule 153 of its rules of procedure,

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[138] ST/SGB/2013/4.

Recalling its resolution 58/269 of 23 December 2003,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2018–2019[139] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[140]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[139]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[140]

3. *Reaffirms* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium and promote greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process, thereby facilitating the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the proposed programme budget outline shall contain an indication of the following:

(*a*) A preliminary estimate of resources needed to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(*b*) Priorities, reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(*c*) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(*d*) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources;

5. *Further reaffirms* that the budget proposals of the Secretary-General should reflect resource levels commensurate with mandates for their full, efficient and effective implementation;

6. *Stresses* that the budget outline is a preliminary estimate of resources;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 on the basis of a preliminary estimate of 5,395.0 million United States dollars at revised 2016–2017 rates, inclusive of a provision of 1,124.4 million dollars for special political missions;

8. *Decides* that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 shall contain provisions for recosting on the basis of the existing methodology;

9. *Also decides* that the priorities for the biennium 2018–2019 shall be the following:

(*a*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*b*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the priorities outlined in paragraph 9 above when presenting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

11. *Decides* that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely, at 40.46 million dollars, that this amount shall be in addition to the overall level of the preliminary estimate and that it shall be used in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

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[139] A/71/428.

[140] A/71/634.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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RESOLUTION 71/133

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/505, para. 9)[1]

71/133. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/83 of 12 December 2001, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, and its resolutions 59/35 of 2 December 2004, 62/61 of 6 December 2007, 65/19 of 6 December 2010 and 68/104 of 16 December 2013 commending the articles to the attention of Governments,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts is of major importance in relations between States,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments[2] and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee, at the fifty-sixth, fifty-ninth, sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly, on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts,

Noting with appreciation the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles, prepared by the Secretary-General,[3]

Noting the discussion on whether Member States should examine all procedural options regarding possible action on the basis of the articles,

1. *Acknowledges* that a growing number of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies refer to the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts;[4]

2. *Continues to acknowledge* the importance and usefulness of the articles, and commends them once again to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to submit further written comments on any future action regarding the articles;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a technical report listing, in a tabular format, the references to the articles contained in the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles prepared since 2001, as well as references to the articles made in submissions presented by Member States before international courts, tribunals and other bodies since 2001, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit such material during its seventy-first session;

5. *Acknowledges* the possibility of requesting, at its seventy-fourth session, the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly with information on all procedural options regarding possible action on the basis of the articles, without prejudice to the question of whether such possible action is appropriate;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles and to invite Governments to submit information on their practice in this regard, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit such material well in advance of its seventy-fourth session;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Brazil on behalf of the Bureau.

[2] See A/62/63 and Add.1, A/65/96 and Add.1, A/68/69 and Add.1 and A/71/79.

[3] See A/62/62 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/65/76, A/68/72 and A/71/80.

[4] Resolution 56/83, annex.

7. *Acknowledges* the constructive dialogue in the context of the working group of the Sixth Committee during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, and encourages all Member States to continue the substantive dialogue on an informal basis during the period prior to the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts" and to further examine, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee and with a view to taking a decision, the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles.

RESOLUTION 71/134

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/506, para. 7)[5]

71/134. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,[6]

Recalling also that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,[7]

Recalling further its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely, that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized, without due process,[8]

Underlining the importance of a zero-tolerance policy for misconduct and the commission of crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

Reaffirming also that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

Reaffirming further the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

Underlining the importance of appropriate training of United Nations officials and experts on mission to prevent any criminal conduct,

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Pakistan on behalf of the Bureau.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part one, chap. III, sect. D, para. 56.

[7] See A/59/710.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part two, chap. II, sect. N, para. 40 (*a*).

Deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

Reaffirming the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

Emphasizing that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

Conscious of the importance of protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel,

Emphasizing that genuine accountability rests on the cooperation of the Member States,

Emphasizing also the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Taking note of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations on uniting our strengths for peace: politics, partnership and people,[9] and of the subsequent report of the Secretary-General entitled "The future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations",[10]

Taking note also of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on fraud prevention, detection and response in United Nations system organizations,[11] the Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Framework of the United Nations Secretariat of September 2016[12] and the report of the Secretary-General on his practice in disciplinary matters and cases of possible criminal behaviour for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016,[13]

Recalling its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Having considered at its previous sessions the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution 59/300[14] and the reports of the Ad Hoc Committee,[15] as well as the note by the Secretariat[16] and the reports of the Secretary-General[17] on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolutions 62/63 of 6 December 2007, 63/119 of 11 December 2008, 64/110 of 16 December 2009, 65/20 of 6 December 2010, 66/93 of 9 December 2011, 67/88 of 14 December 2012, 68/105 of 16 December 2013, 69/114 of 10 December 2014 and 70/114 of 14 December 2015,

Recalling also its decision that, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 70/114, the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and also noting the inputs by the Secretariat, would be continued during its seventy-third session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee,

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[9] See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

[10] A/70/357-S/2015/682.

[11] JIU/REP/2016/4.

[12] ST/IC/2016/25, annex.

[13] A/71/186.

[14] A/60/980.

[15] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/62/54); and ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/63/54).

[16] A/62/329.

[17] A/63/260 and Add.1, A/64/183 and Add.1, A/65/185, A/66/174 and Add.1, A/67/213, A/68/173, A/69/210 and A/70/208.

Convinced of the continuing need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, in particular annex II thereto providing additional information on the nature of the allegations and information received from States on all referrals since 1 July 2007;[18]

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse,[19] as well as the findings of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat in its evaluation report of 15 May 2015, including on the issue of underreporting;[20]

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to refer credible allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse to the Member State of the United Nations officials or experts on mission for appropriate action;

4. *Also welcomes* the appointment of the Special Coordinator on Improving the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and requests the Secretary-General to regularly update Member States on progress with respect to the implementation of the mandate of the Special Coordinator;

5. *Expresses its concern* with respect to all alleged crimes on the part of United Nations officials and experts on mission, including allegations of fraud, corruption and other financial crimes, and in that regard welcomes the reaffirmation by the Secretary-General that there will be no tolerance for any corruption at the United Nations;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that his zero-tolerance policy for criminal activities, such as sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and corruption, is made known to all United Nations officials and experts on mission at all levels, especially those in managerial positions, and is fully implemented in a coherent and coordinated manner throughout the United Nations, including funds and programmes, and calls upon all entities in the United Nations to inform and to cooperate fully with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in all cases involving allegations that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

7. *Expresses its concern* with respect to the low rate of response from States to referred allegations, as requested in its resolution 70/114;

8. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

9. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing, to the extent that they have not yet done so, jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State, and, further, urges States and appropriate international organizations to provide technical and other appropriate assistance in developing such legal measures to States requesting such support;

10. *Encourages* all States and the United Nations to cooperate with each other in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, the prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their national law and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

11. *Encourages* all States:

(*a*) To afford each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their national law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

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[18] A/71/167.

[19] A/70/729 and A/71/97.

[20] "Evaluation of the enforcement and remedial assistance efforts for sexual exploitation and abuse by the United Nations and related personnel in peacekeeping operations", as reissued on 12 June 2015.

(*b*) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

(*c*) In accordance with their national law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to and others who provide information in relation to crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access of victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

(*d*) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

12. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable, and also requests that the Secretariat take all appropriate measures to continue to ensure that all such personnel, as well as United Nations officials, are properly vetted by the States contributing personnel and by the Organization for any prior misconduct while serving with the United Nations;

13. *Urges* the Secretary-General to make Member States contributing personnel to serve as experts on mission aware of the necessity of providing appropriate conduct-related training prior to deployment, and also urges the Secretary-General to continue to take such practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

14. *Reiterates* its decision that, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts,[14] in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and also noting the inputs by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its seventy-third session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, and, for that purpose, invites further comments from Member States on that report, including on the question of future action;

15. *Takes note* of the briefings by the Secretariat during the seventieth and seventy-first sessions, and decides to organize another briefing at the seventy-second session with a view to furthering discussion on measures that could be taken to help ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and prevent future crimes;

16. *Recognizes* the efforts of Member States towards devising concrete proposals to ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts informally during the intersessional period, with the support of the Secretariat, in particular through the organization of informal briefings;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States updates, as set out in paragraph 19 below, on the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek, from all States that have notified the United Nations with respect to investigations or prosecutions of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, updates on the status of their investigations or prosecutions, provided that this would not prejudice national investigations or national proceedings;

19. *Urges* the States referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 above to provide to the Secretary-General periodic updates on their handling of the allegations, in particular informing the Secretary-General of whether any

disciplinary or criminal proceedings have been brought and of the outcome of any such proceedings or the reasons for not initiating them, provided that this would not be contrary to national laws or prejudice national investigations or national proceedings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue and undertake the necessary follow-up with the States concerned, with a view to encouraging those States to respond;

20. *Requests* the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and the reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

22. *Urges* the United Nations to continue cooperating with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

23. *Underlines* the importance of a culture in which individuals are encouraged and supported by the Organization to report alleged crimes, emphasizes that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, and stresses the need for appropriate safeguards against retaliation;

24. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105, 69/114 and 70/114, and urges Governments to continue taking the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States, and to provide specific details thereon, in particular with respect to paragraph 9 above, in the information provided to the Secretary-General;

25. *Recalls its request* in resolution 70/114 for Governments to provide specific details on the measures taken, as necessary, for the implementation of its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105 and 69/114, and notes that, in response to those resolutions, 108 submissions were received from 58 Member States between 6 December 2007 and 20 July 2016;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and keep updated a report containing a compilation and a summary table of national provisions, based on information received from Member States since 2007, regarding the establishment of jurisdiction over their nationals whenever they serve as United Nations officials or experts on mission, in relation to crimes as known in their existing national criminal laws, particularly those of a serious nature, and in this regard takes note of the questionnaire distributed by the Secretariat to all Member States to assist in this process;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report setting out all relevant existing United Nations policies and procedures of the United Nations system regarding the allegations referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 above;

28. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 9, 11, 12, 14, 17 and 19 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve reporting methods and expand the scope of reporting, by providing information on the allegations referred to in paragraphs 17 and 18 above as well as information received pursuant to paragraph 19 since 1 July 2007, limited to the United Nations entity involved, the year of referral, the dates of follow-up requests from the Secretary-General, information about the type of crime and summary of allegations, status of investigations, prosecutorial and disciplinary actions taken, including with respect to individuals concerned who have left the duty mission or the service of the United Nations, any requests for

waivers of immunity, as applicable, and information on jurisdictional, evidentiary or other obstacles to prosecution, while protecting the privacy of the victims as well as respecting the privacy and rights of those subject to the allegations;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission".

RESOLUTION 71/135

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/507, para. 14)[21]

71/135. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-ninth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its belief that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

Having considered the report of the Commission,[22]

Reiterating its concern that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat, to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;[22]

2. *Commends* the Commission for the finalization and adoption of the Model Law on Secured Transactions,[23] the 2016 Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings[24] and the Technical Notes on Online Dispute Resolution;[25]

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[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[22] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17).

[23] Ibid., chap. III, sect. A.

[24] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[25] Ibid., chap. V and annex I.

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Commission has instructed its secretariat to commence preparations for a Congress to commemorate the Commission's fiftieth anniversary during its fiftieth session, with the objectives to discuss technical issues and to raise awareness of the Commission and its potential to support cross-border commerce;[26]

4. *Also notes with satisfaction* the contributions from the Fund for International Development of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and from the European Union, which allow the operation of the repository of published information under the Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration[27] until the end of 2016 and beyond, and that the Commission reiterated its strong and unanimous opinion that the secretariat of the Commission should continue to operate the transparency repository, which constitutes a central feature both of the Rules on Transparency and of the United Nations Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (Mauritius Convention on Transparency);[28]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to operate, through the secretariat of the Commission, the repository of published information in accordance with article 8 of the Rules on Transparency, as a pilot project until the end of 2017, to be funded entirely by voluntary contributions, and to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the funding and budgetary situation of the transparency repository based on its pilot operation;

6. *Takes note with interest* of the decisions taken by the Commission as regards its future work and the progress made by the Commission in its work in the areas of dispute settlement,[29] electronic commerce, insolvency law, security interests[30] and international trade law aimed at reducing the legal obstacles faced by micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises throughout their life cycle, and encourages the Commission to continue to move forward efficiently to achieve tangible work outcomes;

7. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their legal activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical cooperation and assistance in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(*a*) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical cooperation and assistance programme, and in that respect encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non-State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law, and draws the attention of the Secretary-General to the limited resources that are made available in this field;

(*c*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical cooperation and assistance activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, for the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

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[26] Ibid., paras. 368–370.

[27] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/68/17), annex I.

[28] Resolution 69/116, annex.

[29] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), chaps. IV and V.

[30] Ibid., chap. III.

(*d*) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical cooperation and assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate with the Commission and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and for the implementation of the international development agenda, including the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[31]

(*e*) Recalls its resolutions stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building, welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with donors and recipients, notes the endorsement by the Commission of the Guidance Note on Strengthening United Nations Support to States, Upon Their Request, to Implement Sound Commercial Law Reforms,[32] and requests the Secretary-General to circulate the Guidance Note as broadly as possible to its intended users;

9. *Recalls* the importance of adherence to the rules of procedure and methods of work of the Commission, including transparent and inclusive deliberations, taking into account the summary of conclusions as reproduced in annex III to the report on the work of its forty-third session,[33] requests the Secretariat to issue, prior to meetings of the Commission and of its working groups, a reminder of those rules of procedure and methods of work with a view to ensuring the high quality of the work of the Commission and encouraging the assessment of its instruments, and in this regard recalls its previous resolutions related to this matter;

10. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, in the Republic of Korea, towards providing capacity-building and technical assistance services to States in the Asia-Pacific region, including to international and regional organizations, expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Korea and China, whose contributions enabled continuing operation of the Regional Centre, notes that the continuation of the regional presence relies entirely on extrabudgetary resources, including but not limited to voluntary contributions from States, welcomes expressions of interest from other States in hosting regional centres of the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the establishment of regional centres, in particular their funding and budgetary situation;

11. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, in order to enable renewal of the provision of that assistance and to increase expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in those countries to put in place a regulatory and enabling environment for business, trade and investment;

12. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation of all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

13. *Endorses* the conviction of the Commission that the implementation and effective use of modern private law standards in international trade are essential for advancing good governance, sustained economic development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that the promotion of the rule of law in commercial relations should be an integral part of the broader agenda of the United Nations to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

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[31] Resolution 70/1.

[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), para. 262 and annex II.

[33] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/65/17).

14. *Notes* the rule of law panel discussion held at the forty-ninth session of the Commission and the comments transmitted by the Commission pursuant to paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 70/118 of 14 December 2015, highlighting its role in promoting the rule of law, in particular the role of the multilateral treaty processes of the Commission in promoting and advancing the rule of law in the field of international trade law and the role of the Commission in promoting the rule of law by facilitating access to justice;[34]

15. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 8 of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, adopted by consensus as resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, Member States recognized the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development, economic growth and employment, generating investment and facilitating entrepreneurship and, in this regard, commended the work of the Commission in modernizing and harmonizing international trade law and that, in paragraph 7 of the declaration, Member States expressed their conviction that the rule of law and development were strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

16. *Also notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 89 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the General Assembly by consensus as resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, States endorsed the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with resolutions of the General Assembly on documentation-related matters,[35] which, in particular, emphasize that any invitation to limit, where appropriate, the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and functions of the Commission in the progressive development and codification of international trade law when implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;[36]

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication of Commission standards and the provision of summary records of the meetings of the Commission, including committees of the whole established by the Commission for the duration of its annual session, relating to the formulation of normative texts, and takes note of the Commission's decision to continue the trial use of digital recordings, in parallel with summary records where applicable, with a view to assessing the experience of using digital recordings and, on the basis of that assessment, taking a decision at a future session regarding the possible replacement of summary records by digital recordings;[37]

19. *Recalls* paragraph 48 of its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011 regarding the rotation scheme of meetings between Vienna and New York;

20. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the use of texts emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to conventions, enacting model laws and encouraging the use of other relevant texts;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Secretariat on the system for the collection and dissemination of case law on Commission texts in the six official languages of the United Nations (the CLOUT system), notes the resource-intensive nature of the system, acknowledges the need for further resources to sustain and expand it, and in this regard welcomes efforts by the Secretariat towards building partnerships with interested institutions, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to assist the secretariat of the Commission in raising awareness as to the availability and usefulness of

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[34] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), paras. 339–342.

[35] Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

[36] Resolutions 59/39, para. 9, and 65/21, para. 18; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/59/17), paras. 124–128.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/69/17), para. 276.

the CLOUT system in professional, academic and judiciary circles and in securing the funding required for the coordination and expansion of the system and the establishment, within the secretariat of the Commission, of a pillar focused on the promotion of ways and means of interpreting Commission texts in a uniform manner;

22. *Welcomes* the continued work of the Secretariat on digests of case law related to Commission texts, including their wide dissemination, as well as the continuing increase in the number of abstracts available through the CLOUT system, in view of the role of the digests and the CLOUT system as important tools for the promotion of the uniform interpretation of international trade law, in particular by building local capacity of judges, arbitrators and other legal practitioners to interpret those standards in the light of their international character and the need to promote uniformity in their application and the observance of good faith in international trade;

23. *Recalls* its resolutions affirming the importance of high-quality, user-friendly and cost-effective United Nations websites and the need for their multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment,[38] commends the fact that the website of the Commission is published in the six official languages of the United Nations, and welcomes the continuous efforts of the Commission to maintain and improve its website, including by developing new social media features, in accordance with the applicable guidelines.[39]

RESOLUTION 71/136

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/507, para. 14)[40]

71/136. Model Law on Secured Transactions of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Recalling also its resolutions 56/81 of 12 December 2001, 63/121 of 11 December 2008, 65/23 of 6 December 2010 and 68/108 of 16 December 2013, in which it recommended that States consider or continue to consider becoming parties to the United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade[41] and giving favourable consideration to the *UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions*, the *Supplement on Security Rights in Intellectual Property* and the *UNCITRAL Guide on the Implementation of a Security Rights Registry*, respectively,

Recalling further that, at its forty-sixth session, in 2013, the Commission entrusted Working Group VI (Security Interests) with the preparation of a model law on secured transactions based on the recommendations of the *UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions* and consistent with all texts prepared by the Commission on secured transactions,[42]

Noting that Working Group VI devoted six sessions,[43] from 2013 to 2016, to the preparation of the Model Law on Secured Transactions,

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[38] Resolutions 52/214, sect. C, para. 3; 55/222, sect. III, para. 12; 56/64 B, sect. X; 57/130 B, sect. X; 58/101 B, sect. V, paras. 61–76; 59/126 B, sect. V, paras. 76–95; 60/109 B, sect. IV, paras. 66–80; and 61/121 B, sect. IV, paras. 65–77.

[39] Resolution 63/120, para. 20.

[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

[41] Resolution 56/81, annex.

[42] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/68/17), paras. 194 and 332.

[43] See A/CN.9/796, A/CN.9/802, A/CN.9/830, A/CN.9/836, A/CN.9/865 and A/CN.9/871.

Noting also that, at its forty-eighth session, in 2015, the Commission approved the substance of the registry-related provisions of the Model Law,[44]

Noting with satisfaction that the Model Law is based on the recommendations of the *UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions* and consistent with all texts prepared by the Commission on secured transactions, and with those texts thus provides comprehensive guidance to States with respect to legal and practical issues that need to be addressed when implementing a modern secured transactions regime,

Recognizing that an efficient secured transactions regime with a publicly accessible security rights registry of the kind provided for in the Model Law is likely to increase access to affordable secured credit and thus promote economic growth, sustainable development, the rule of law and financial inclusion, as well as assist in combating poverty,

Recognizing also that the harmonization of national secured transactions regimes and registries on the basis of the Model Law is likely to increase the availability of secured credit across national borders and thus facilitate the development of international trade, which, if achieved on the basis of equality and mutual benefit to all States, is an important element in promoting friendly relations among States,

Recognizing further that secured transactions law reform could not be effectively implemented without the establishment of an efficient, publicly accessible security rights registry where information about the potential existence of a security right in movable assets may be registered, and that States urgently need guidance with respect to the establishment and operation of such registries,

Convinced that the Model Law will contribute to greater legal certainty in the exercise of international commercial activities for the benefit of all States, particularly developing countries and States with economies in transition,

Noting with appreciation that all States and interested international organizations were invited to participate in the preparation of the draft Model Law at all the sessions of the Working Group and at the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Commission, either as members or as observers, and that comments received after circulation of the text of the Model Law to all Governments were before the Commission at its forty-ninth session,[45]

Expressing its appreciation to international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of secured transactions law reform for their participation in and support for the development of the Model Law,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for completing and adopting the Model Law on Secured Transactions;[46]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish the Model Law, including electronically, in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to disseminate it broadly to Governments and other interested bodies;

3. *Recommends* that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law when revising or adopting legislation relevant to secured transactions, and invites States that have used the Model Law to advise the Commission accordingly;

4. *Also recommends* that, where necessary, States continue to give favourable consideration to the *UNCITRAL Guide on the Implementation of a Security Rights Registry* when revising relevant legislation, administrative regulations or guidelines, and to the *UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions* and the *Supplement on Security Rights in Intellectual Property* when revising or adopting legislation relevant to secured transactions, and invites States that have used the guides to advise the Commission accordingly;

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[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/70/17), para. 214.

[45] See A/CN.9/886 and A/CN.9/887 and Add.1.

[46] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), chap. III, sect. A.

5. *Further recommends* that all States continue to consider becoming parties to the United Nations Convention on the Assignment of Receivables in International Trade,[41] the principles of which are also reflected in the Model Law, and the optional annex to which refers to the registration of notices with regard to assignments.

RESOLUTION 71/137

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/507, para. 14)[47]

71/137. 2016 Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Recalling also its resolution 51/161 of 16 December 1996, in which it commended the Commission for the finalization of the Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings,

Reaffirming the value and increased use of arbitration as a method of settling disputes,

Recognizing the need for revising the Notes to conform to current arbitral practices,

Noting that the purpose of the Notes is to list and briefly describe matters relevant to the organization of arbitral proceedings and that the Notes, prepared with a focus on international arbitration, are intended to be used in a general and universal manner, regardless of whether the arbitration is administered by an arbitral institution,

Noting also that the Notes do not seek to promote any practice as best practice, given that procedural styles and practices in arbitration vary and each of them has its own merit,

Recognizing that the revision of the Notes was the subject of due deliberation in the Commission, which benefited greatly from consultations with Governments and interested intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations active in the field of arbitration, including arbitral institutions, as well as individual experts,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing and adopting the 2016 Notes on Organizing Arbitral Proceedings;[48]

2. *Recommends* the use of the 2016 Notes, including by parties to arbitration, arbitral tribunals and arbitral institutions, as well as for academic and training purposes with respect to international commercial dispute settlement;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish the 2016 Notes, including electronically, in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to make all efforts to ensure that the Notes become generally known and available.

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[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

[48] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), chap. IV, sect. A.

RESOLUTION 71/138

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/507, para. 14)[49]

71/138. Technical Notes on Online Dispute Resolution of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Recognizing that the sharp increase in online cross-border transactions has raised a need for mechanisms for resolving disputes that arise from such transactions, and recognizing also that one such mechanism is online dispute resolution,

Observing that online dispute resolution can assist the parties in resolving the dispute in a simple, fast, flexible and secure manner, without the need for physical presence at a meeting or hearing,

Observing also that online dispute resolution represents significant opportunities for access to dispute resolution by buyers and sellers concluding cross-border commercial transactions, both in developed and developing countries,

Recalling that, at its forty-third session, in 2010, the Commission agreed that a working group should be established to undertake work in the field of online dispute resolution,[50] and that, at its forty-eighth session, in 2015, the Commission decided that the work should take the form of a non-binding descriptive document reflecting elements of an online dispute resolution process,[51]

Noting that the Technical Notes on Online Dispute Resolution[52] are non-binding and descriptive and reflect the principles of impartiality, independence, efficiency, effectiveness, due process, fairness, accountability and transparency,

Noting also that the Technical Notes are expected to contribute significantly to the development of systems to enable the settlement of disputes arising from cross-border low-value sales or service contracts concluded using electronic communications,

Convinced that the Technical Notes will significantly assist all States, in particular developing countries and States whose economies are in transition, online dispute resolution administrators, online dispute resolution platforms, neutrals and the parties to online dispute resolution proceedings in developing and using online dispute resolution systems,

Noting with appreciation that all States and interested international organizations were invited to participate in the preparation of the Technical Notes either as members or as observers from the forty-fourth to the forty-ninth sessions of the Commission, including through circulation of the text of the draft Technical Notes for comment to all States as well as to international organizations invited to attend the meetings of the Commission as observers,

Noting that the preparation of the Technical Notes was the subject of due deliberation in the Commission and that the draft text benefited from consultations with Governments and interested intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations,

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[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Austria on behalf of the Bureau.

[50] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/65/17), para. 257.

[51] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/70/17), para. 352.

[52] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), annex I.

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing and adopting the Technical Notes on Online Dispute Resolution as annexed to the report of the Commission on the work of its forty-ninth session;[53]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish the text of the Technical Notes through all appropriate means, including electronically, in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to disseminate that text broadly to Governments and other interested bodies;

3. *Recommends* that all States and other stakeholders use the Technical Notes in designing and implementing online dispute resolution systems for cross-border commercial transactions;

4. *Requests* all States to support the promotion and use of the Technical Notes.

RESOLUTION 71/139

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/508, para. 7)[54]

71/139. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which the General Assembly established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Noting that 2016 marks the beginning of the second half-century of the Programme of Assistance, and emphasizing the importance of ensuring the successful continuation of the Programme for the benefit of present and future generations of lawyers,

Reaffirming that the Programme of Assistance is a core activity of the United Nations and that it has provided the foundation for the efforts of the United Nations to promote a better knowledge of international law for more than half a century,

Recognizing the major contribution of the Programme of Assistance to the teaching and dissemination of international law for the benefit of lawyers in all countries, legal systems and regions of the world for more than half a century,

Emphasizing the important contribution of the Programme of Assistance, in particular the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities,

Reaffirming that the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities creates new challenges for the Programme of Assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the Programme of Assistance effectively reaching its beneficiaries, including with regard to languages, while bearing in mind limitations on available resources,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance[55] and the views of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which are contained in the report,

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[53] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17).

[54] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ghana on behalf of the Bureau.

[55] A/71/432.

Noting with satisfaction that resources have been provided under the programme budget for the organization of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law on an annual basis and the further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law,

Welcoming the organization, for the first time in the history of the Programme of Assistance, of all three of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016,

Noting with regret that the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea was not awarded in 2016 owing to insufficient voluntary contributions,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Convinced that States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and to increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities which are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities, institutions and others,

Reaffirming also the hope that, in appointing highly qualified lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

1. *Reiterates its approval* of the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the previous report of the Secretary-General,[76] in particular those designed to strengthen and revitalize the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in response to the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his reports[77] in 2017, including the following activities to be financed from provisions in the regular budget:

(*a*) The International Law Fellowship Programme, with a minimum of 20 fellowships;

(*b*) The United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a minimum of 20 fellowships for each course;

(*c*) The United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, including its continuation and further development;

(*d*) The dissemination of legal publications and lectures of the Audiovisual Library to developing countries to the extent that there are sufficient resources;

3. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to further expand the activities referred to in paragraph 2 above, to be financed from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraphs 14, 24 and 25 below;

4. *Commends* the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat for the cost-saving measures undertaken with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law to increase the number of fellowships for the training courses financed from provisions in the regular budget, taking into account the number of applications for these courses;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award additional fellowships for the training courses from available resources under the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance and from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraph 25 below;

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[76] A/70/423.

[77] A/70/423 and A/71/432.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the training courses, self-funded candidates present in the host country or from countries willing to bear the entire cost of their participation;

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award a minimum of one scholarship in 2017 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, taking note of paragraph 8 of resolution 69/117 of 10 December 2014 and paragraph 4 of resolution 70/116 of 14 December 2015;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include resources under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean each year and for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities conducted under the Programme of Assistance and, in particular, for the efforts to strengthen, expand and enhance the international law training and dissemination activities within the framework of the Programme in 2016;

10. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as a major contribution to the teaching and dissemination of international law around the world;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs, and once again requests the Secretary-General to issue the publications referred to in his previous report[19] in various formats, including hard copy publications, which are essential for developing countries;

12. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts that were undertaken by the Office of Legal Affairs to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications, in particular the desktop publishing initiative undertaken by the Codification Division from 2003 to 2013, which greatly enhanced the timely issuance of its legal publications and made possible the preparation of legal training materials, as noted in its resolutions 64/113 of 16 December 2009, 65/25 of 6 December 2010, 66/97 of 9 December 2011, 67/91 of 14 December 2012, 68/110 of 16 December 2013, 69/117 and 70/116;

13. *Expresses its regret once again* that none of the publications referred to in the report of the Secretary-General have been issued since 2014, when desktop publishing was discontinued owing to lack of resources, notwithstanding its resolutions 68/110, 69/117 and 70/116, and reiterates its recommendation that the necessary resources be made available to resume this successful initiative;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the preparation of the International Law Handbook as a valuable resource for international law education on a broad range of core subjects of international law in its training courses and for academic institutions in developing countries to promote international law education in those countries, and requests Member States to provide the voluntary contributions necessary to ensure the completion of this educational resource in English and French, as well as its dissemination in developing countries;

15. *Requests* the Office of Legal Affairs to continue to maintain and expand its websites listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General as an invaluable tool for the dissemination of international law materials as well as for advanced legal research;

16. *Requests* that interns and research assistants be enlisted for the preparation of materials for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as well as the International Law Handbook;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Codification Division to revitalize and conduct the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as an important training activity;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to Ethiopia, Thailand and Uruguay for hosting the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2016, and also expresses its appreciation to Chile for its willingness to host the Regional Course for Latin America and the Caribbean in 2017;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* to the African Union for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa;

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[19] A/70/421, para. 45.

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to Ghana for hosting the first International Law Seminar for African Universities in 2016 to promote capacity-building in international law education for African universities and to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Programme of Assistance, and to Ethiopia for its willingness to host the second International Law Seminar for African Universities in 2017;

21. *Once again encourages* the Codification Division to cooperate with the African Institute of International Law, dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law needed for the development of Africa, in the implementation of the relevant activities under the Programme of Assistance;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with courses at the Academy;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

25. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law organized by the Codification Division as an important complement to the International Law Fellowship Programme;

26. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to support the Programme of Assistance;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2017 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme in subsequent years;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 71/140

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/509, para. 11)[59]

71/140. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session,[60]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development and codification of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the

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[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Peru on behalf of the Bureau.

[60] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/71/10).

Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[61]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Recalling also the role of Member States in submitting proposals for new topics for the consideration of the International Law Commission, and noting in this regard the recommendation of the Commission that such proposals be accompanied by a statement of reasons,

Reaffirming the importance for the successful work of the International Law Commission of the information provided by Member States concerning their views and practice,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

Acknowledging the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and of eliminating the backlog,

Stressing the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

Wishing to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

Welcoming initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session;[60]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its sixty-eighth session, and notes in particular:

(*a*) The completion of the second reading of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters with the adoption of an entire set of draft articles on the topic;[62]

(*b*) The completion of the first reading of the draft conclusions on identification of customary international law with the adoption of an entire set of draft conclusions on the topic;[63]

(*c*) The completion of the first reading of the draft conclusions on subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties with the adoption of an entire set of draft conclusions on the topic;[64]

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[61] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[62] *See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/71/10), chap. IV, sect. E.

[63] Ibid., chap. V, sect. C.

[64] Ibid., chap. VI, sect. C.

3. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the Sixth Committee;

4. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views by 31 January 2017 on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report, regarding:

(*a*) Crimes against humanity;

(*b*) Protection of the atmosphere;

(*c*) Provisional application of treaties;

(*d*) *Jus cogens*;

(*e*) Immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction;

5. *Also draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 1 January 2018 on the draft conclusions on the topics "Identification of customary international law" and "Subsequent agreements and subsequent practice in relation to the interpretation of treaties", adopted on first reading by the Commission at its sixty-eighth session;[65]

6. *Takes note* of paragraphs 306 to 313 of the report of the International Law Commission and notes, in particular, the inclusion of the topics "The settlement of international disputes to which international organizations are parties" and "Succession of States in respect of State responsibility" in the long-term programme of work of the Commission,[66] as well as the recommendation of the Commission that the potential topics identified in the memorandum by the Secretariat concerning "Possible topics for consideration taking into account the review of the list of topics established in 1996 in the light of subsequent developments"[67] be further considered by the Working Group on the Long-term Programme of Work at the sixty-ninth session of the Commission;

7. *Recalls* that the seat of the International Law Commission is at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

8. *Takes note* of the comments of the International Law Commission on the possibility of holding one half session in the next quinquennium in New York, as presented in paragraphs 323 to 326 of its report, and endorses its recommendation that the first part of the seventieth session of the Commission be held in New York, which will coincide with the commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the Commission;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the recommendations of the International Law Commission, contained in paragraphs 327 to 332 of its report, that a seventieth anniversary event be held during its seventieth session, in 2018, at meetings in New York and in Geneva, that a report on those meetings be discussed at the annual meeting of the Legal Advisers in New York and that the anniversary event lead to a publication;

10. *Takes note* of paragraph 333 of the report of the International Law Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to identify concrete options for support for the work of special rapporteurs, additional to those provided under General Assembly resolution 56/272 of 27 March 2002;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Law Commission to improve its methods of work,[68] and encourages the Commission to continue this practice;

12. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue to take measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to Member States to that end;

13. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to take cost-saving measures at its future sessions, without prejudice to the efficiency and effectiveness of its work;

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[65] Ibid., paras. 60 and 73.

[66] Ibid., para. 308.

[67] A/CN.4/679/Add.1.

[68] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/66/10), paras. 370–388.

14. *Takes note* of paragraph 347 of the report of the International Law Commission, and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 May to 2 June and from 3 July to 4 August 2017;

15. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission throughout the year;

16. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to continue to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

17. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

18. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

19. *Takes note* of paragraphs 348 to 351 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cooperation and interaction with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of articles 16 (*e*), 25 and 26 of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

20. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

21. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission, including in the preparation of memorandums and studies on topics on the agenda of the Commission, and takes note of the requests of the Commission for the Secretariat to prepare memorandums on the topics "Identification of customary international law" and "Provisional application of treaties" contained in paragraphs 301 and 302 of the report of the Commission;

22. *Also reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the International Law Commission;[69]

23. *Welcomes* the institutionalization of the practice of the Secretariat to include the provisional summary records in English and French on the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;

24. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretariat in seeking to ensure timely and efficient processing of the documents of the International Law Commission, and encourages the Secretariat to institutionalize the experimental measures taken during the sixty-eighth session of the Commission to streamline the editing of those documents;

25. *Takes note* of paragraphs 338 to 340 of the report of the International Law Commission, recalls the paramount importance of multilingualism as set forth in General Assembly resolution 69/324 of 11 September 2015 on multilingualism, underlines the importance of having the documents of the Commission published in due time in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to this end encourages special rapporteurs to submit their reports within the time limits specified by the Secretariat;

26. *Takes note* of paragraphs 334 and 335 of the report of the International Law Commission, underlines the importance of the publications of the Codification Division to the work of the Commission, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General continue to publish the *Work of the International Law Commission* in all six official

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[69] See resolutions 32/151, para. 10, and 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly.

languages at the beginning of each quinquennium, the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* in English or French and the *Summaries of the Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice* in all six official languages every five years;

27. *Stresses* the need to expedite the preparation of the summary records of the International Law Commission, and welcomes the continuation of the measures taken to streamline the processing of summary records during the sixty-fifth session of the Commission,[70] which have led to a more rational use of resources, and expresses its satisfaction that the summary records of the Commission, constituting *travaux préparatoires* in the progressive development and codification of international law, will not be subject to arbitrary length restrictions;

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 342 of the report of the International Law Commission, stresses the unique value of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its timely publication in all official languages;

29. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund on the backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and encourages further contributions to the trust fund;

30. *Takes note* of paragraph 343 of the report of the International Law Commission, expresses its satisfaction with the remarkable progress achieved in the past few years in reducing the backlog of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* in all six languages, welcomes the efforts made by the Division of Conference Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva, especially its Editing Section, in effectively implementing relevant resolutions of the General Assembly calling for the reduction of the backlog, encourages that Division to provide continuous necessary support to the Editing Section in advancing the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests that updates on progress made in this respect be provided to the Commission on a regular basis;

31. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;

32. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants representing the principal legal systems of the world, including in particular those from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, as well as delegates to the Sixth Committee, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue to consider ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

34. *Underlines* the importance of the records and topical summary of the debate in the Sixth Committee for the deliberations of the International Law Commission, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to forward to the Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

35. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

36. *Also requests* the Secretariat to make the complete report of the International Law Commission available as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the Commission for the consideration of Member States with due anticipation and no later than the prescribed time limit for reports in the General Assembly;

37. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to consider ways in which specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission could be framed so as to help Governments to have a better appreciation of the issues on which responses are required;

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[70] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/68/10), para. 183.

38. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly commence on 23 October 2017.

RESOLUTION 71/141

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/509, para. 11)[71]

71/141. Protection of persons in the event of disasters

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session,[72] which contains the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters,[73]

Noting that the Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles,[74]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of the protection of persons in the event of disasters is of major importance in the relations of States,

Taking into account views and comments expressed in the Sixth Committee on chapter IV, on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, of the report of the Commission,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

2. *Takes note* of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, presented by the Commission,[73] and invites Governments to submit comments concerning the recommendation by the Commission to elaborate a convention on the basis of these articles;[74]

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session an item entitled "Protection of persons in the event of disasters".

RESOLUTION 71/142

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/510, para. 9)[75]

71/142. Diplomatic protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/67 of 6 December 2007, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on diplomatic protection, commending the articles to the attention of Governments,

Recalling also that the International Law Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the articles on diplomatic protection,[76]

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[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Slovakia on behalf of the Bureau.

[72] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/71/10).

[73] Ibid., para. 48.

[74] Ibid., para. 46.

[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of South Africa on behalf of the Bureau.

[76] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), para. 46.

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of diplomatic protection is of major importance in relations between States,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments[77] and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee, at the sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly, on diplomatic protection,

1. *Commends once again* the articles on diplomatic protection[78] to the attention of Governments, and invites them to submit in writing to the Secretary-General any further comments, including comments concerning the recommendation by the International Law Commission to elaborate a convention on the basis of the articles;[76]

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Diplomatic protection" and, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, in the light of the written comments of Governments, as well as views expressed in the debates held at the sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly, to continue to examine the question of a convention on diplomatic protection, or any other appropriate action, on the basis of the above-mentioned articles and to also identify any difference of opinion on the articles.

RESOLUTION 71/143

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/511, para. 7)[79]

71/143. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/82 of 12 December 2001, 61/36 of 4 December 2006, the annex to which contains the text of the principles on the allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities, and 62/68 of 6 December 2007, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities, as well as 65/28 of 6 December 2010 and 68/114 of 16 December 2013,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the questions of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm are of major importance in relations between States,

Taking into account the views and comments expressed in the Sixth Committee at previous sessions and at the current session of the General Assembly,[80]

1. *Commends once again* the articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities, the text of which is annexed to General Assembly resolution 62/68, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the International Law Commission regarding the articles;

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[77] See A/62/118 and Add.1, A/65/182 and Add.1, A/68/115 and Add.1 and A/71/93 and Corr.1.

[78] Resolution 62/67, annex.

[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Czechia on behalf of the Bureau.

[80] See A/C.6/56/SR.11–13, 15–19, 22 and 23; A/C.6/61/SR.9–12, 14 and 21; A/C.6/62/SR.12 and 28; A/C.6/65/SR.17 and 27; A/C.6/68/SR.16, 28 and 29; and A/C.6/71/18. See also the reports of the Secretary-General containing comments and observations received from Governments (A/65/184 and Add.1; A/68/170; and A/71/136 and Add.1) and the reports of the Secretary-General containing a compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies (A/68/94 and A/71/98).

2. *Also commends once again* the principles on the allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities, the text of which is annexed to General Assembly resolution 61/36, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the Commission regarding the principles;

3. *Invites* Governments to submit further comments on any future action, in particular on the form of the respective articles and principles, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the Commission in that regard, including in relation to the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the articles, as well as on any practice in relation to the application of the articles and principles;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles and the principles;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm".

RESOLUTION 71/144

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/512, para. 8)[81]

71/144. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its biennial resolutions on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, including its resolution 69/120 of 10 December 2014,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[82]

Reaffirming the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for those rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Stressing the need to consolidate the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions of 1949[83] and the Additional Protocols,[84]

Calling upon Member States to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law as widely as possible, and calling upon all parties to armed conflict to apply international humanitarian law,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

Noting with appreciation the meetings of representatives of those bodies organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, together with relevant partners such as national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, to facilitate the sharing of concrete experience and the exchange of views on their roles and on the challenges they face,

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[81] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and State of Palestine.

[82] A/71/183 and Add.1.

[83] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[84] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513, and vol. 2404, No. 43425.

Stressing the possibility of making use of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I[85] to the Geneva Conventions,

Stressing also the possibility for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions and Protocol I,

Taking note of the fact that, in paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the Security Council noted the range of existing methods used, on a case-by-case basis, for gathering information on alleged violations of applicable international law relating to the protection of civilians, underlined the importance in that regard of receiving information that is timely, objective, accurate and reliable, and considered the possibility, to that end, of using the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established by article 90 of Protocol I,

Noting with appreciation the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in facilitating and offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

Noting with appreciation also the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols,

Noting the special responsibilities of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their respective States in the humanitarian field, to cooperate with and assist their Governments in the promotion, dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law,

Welcoming the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

Recalling the imperative need to improve compliance with international humanitarian law, recognized by all States at the Thirty-second International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 8 to 10 December 2015,

Welcoming the continued engagement of States in the intergovernmental process, and recalling its State-driven and consensus-based character, aimed at finding ways to enhance the implementation of international humanitarian law,

Noting the close cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross and States to further strengthen international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict,

Noting also the work undertaken by the International Committee of the Red Cross in relation to sexual violence in armed conflict,

Noting further the work undertaken by States, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other actors in the Health Care in Danger project to improve the protection of the provision of and access to health care,

Calling upon all parties to armed conflict to respect and protect the wounded and sick, as well as health-care personnel, humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, and their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in armed conflict, in accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law,

Noting the serious concern expressed by States regarding the humanitarian impact caused by cluster munitions, and noting the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions[86] on 1 August 2010,

Noting also the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty[87] on 24 December 2014,

Welcoming the important contribution to the protection of victims of armed conflicts made by the significant debate generated by the publication in 2005 of the study by the International Committee of the Red Cross on customary international humanitarian law, as well as other recent initiatives by the Committee, welcoming also its efforts to update regularly its customary international humanitarian law database, and looking forward to further constructive discussion on the subject,

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[85] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[86] Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

[87] See resolution 67/234 B.

Acknowledging the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[88] covers the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law and that the Rome Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

Noting the amendments to article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, relating to war crimes under the Rome Statute, adopted on 10 June 2010 at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010,

Acknowledging the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of instruments of international humanitarian law relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

1. *Welcomes* the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[83] and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two Additional Protocols of 1977 in the context of their upcoming fortieth anniversary;[89]

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols[84] at the earliest possible date;

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I,[85] or those States not parties, on becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol and to consider making use, where appropriate, of the services of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in accordance with the provisions of article 90 of Protocol I;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the two Protocols thereto[90] and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[91]

6. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective, and supports its further strengthening and development;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the 10 resolutions adopted at the Thirty-second International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 8 to 10 December 2015, in particular resolutions 1 to 4, recalls their importance, as well as the recommendations for further actions therein, in strengthening international humanitarian law, and notes with appreciation in this regard resolution 2, entitled "Strengthening compliance with international humanitarian law", in which the Conference, inter alia, recommended the continuation of an inclusive, State-driven intergovernmental process based on the principle of consensus and in line with the guiding principles of the consultation process to find agreement on features and functions of a potential forum of States and to find ways to enhance the implementation of international humanitarian law;

9. *Welcomes* the activities of the Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts made by Member States to take legislative and administrative

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[88] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[89] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[90] Ibid., vol. 249, No. 3511, and vol. 2253, No. 3511.

[91] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

action to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments, and reminds Member States of the availability of the manual on domestic implementation of international humanitarian law;

10. *Also welcomes* the increasing number of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and their work in promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to consider establishing national commissions or committees with the support of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies where relevant, to advise and assist Governments in implementing and disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a comprehensive report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

12. *Encourages* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, to focus on new developments and activities during the reporting period;

13. *Encourages* Member States to explore ways of facilitating the submission of information for future reports of the Secretary-General and, in this context, to consider the convenience of using a questionnaire as drafted by Member States, with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, as appropriate, in consultation with the Secretariat, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

RESOLUTION 71/145

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/513, para. 7)[92]

71/145. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[93]

Conscious of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Convinced that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Alarmed by the new and recurring acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which endanger or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives and officials,

Expressing sympathy for the victims of such illegal acts,

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[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[93] A/71/130 and Add.1.

Noting that diplomatic and consular missions may maintain archives and documents in various forms, that official correspondence may take a variety of forms and that diplomatic and consular missions may use a variety of means of communication,

Recalling that the archives and documents of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable at any time and wherever they may be and that the official correspondence of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable,

Recalling also that States shall permit and protect free communication of diplomatic and consular missions for all official purposes and that diplomatic and consular missions may employ all appropriate means in communicating with their Governments and other diplomatic and consular missions of their State, wherever situated,

Concerned at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

Recalling that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

Recalling also that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of diplomatic and consular missions,

Emphasizing the duty of States to take all appropriate measures, as required by international law, in a timely manner, for the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

Welcoming measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

Convinced that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[illegible]

2. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Urges* States to strictly observe, implement and enforce, including during a period of armed conflict, all the applicable principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those relating to inviolability, and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prevent and prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

4. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, including during a period of armed conflict, and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;

5. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including measures of a preventive nature, and with regard to the timely exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

6. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

7. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

8. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

9. *Calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means available for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

10. *Urges*:

(*a*) All States to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General,[194] serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

(*b*) The State in which the violation took place – and, to the extent possible, the State where the alleged offender is present – to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General, on measures taken to bring the offender to justice and to communicate, in accordance with its laws, the final outcome of the proceedings against the offender, and to report on measures adopted with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To send, without delay, a circular note to all States reminding them of the request contained in paragraph 10 above;

(*b*) To circulate to all States, upon receipt, the reports received by him pursuant to paragraph 10 above, unless the reporting State requests otherwise;

(*c*) To draw the attention, when appropriate, of the States directly concerned to the reporting procedures provided for in paragraph 10 above, when a serious violation has been reported pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above;

(*d*) To address reminders to States where such violations have occurred if reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above or follow-up reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*b*) above have not been made within a reasonable period of time;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, in the circular note referred to in paragraph 11 (*a*) above, to inform him of their views with respect to any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report containing:

(*a*) Information on the state of ratification of and accessions to the instruments referred to in paragraph 8 above;

(*b*) A summary of the reports received and views expressed pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 12 above;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly any views he may wish to express on the matters referred to in paragraph 13 above;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

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[194] A/42/485, annex.

RESOLUTION 71/146

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/514, para. 11)[95]

71/146. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,[96]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying-out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Mindful of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,[97]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "*Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*",[98]

Recalling paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[99]

Mindful of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,[100]

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[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of *Zambia* on behalf of the Bureau.

[96] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/63/47).

[97] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/61/33), para. 72.

[98] A/71/202.

[99] Resolution 60/1.

[100] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33), para. 77.

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" annexed thereto,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2016,[101]

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[101]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 21 February to 1 March 2017;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2017, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2017, including strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes;

(*b*) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(*c*) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(*d*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency and utilization of resources with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Endorses* the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 2016 session, as annexed to the present resolution, and calls upon the Special Committee to consider these in an appropriate, substantive manner and framework;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee, at its session in 2017, to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

6. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

8. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, notes that, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, the Court's advisory jurisdiction may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

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[101] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/71/33).

9. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the increased use of the internship programme of the United Nations and further expanded cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory*, as well as the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*;

11. *Reiterates its call for* voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* so as to further support the Secretariat in carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog; voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*; and the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

12. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions, and welcomes the establishment of a new website for the *Repertory*;[102]

13. *Notes with concern* that the backlog in the preparation of volume III of the *Repertory*, although slightly reduced, has not been eliminated, and calls upon the Secretary-General to address that issue effectively and on a priority basis, while commending the Secretary-General for progress made in reducing the backlog;

14. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire* calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report dated 18 September 1952;[103]

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, under the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization", a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

Annex

The Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

1. *Calls upon* the Member States to hold intersessional informal meetings with the aim of finalizing the proposal of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries entitled "Proposal of the Non-Aligned Movement on the pacific settlement of disputes and its impact on the maintenance of peace"[104] and the proposal submitted by Ghana entitled "Working paper by Ghana on strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies in the peaceful settlement of disputes",[105] and calls upon all the Member States to constructively engage on those proposals with a view to making substantive progress at the next session of the Special Committee;

2. *Recommends* that the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations relating to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (Article 50 of the Charter) be considered by the Special Committee at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly and biennially thereafter, and recommends that the Secretary-General be requested to submit to the Assembly a report on the

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[102] http://legal.un.org/repertory.

[103] A/2170.

[104] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/70/33), annex I.

[105] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/71/33), annex.

implementation of the provisions of the Charter relating to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions at the seventy-second session and biennially thereafter;

3. *Also recommends* that the Secretary-General be requested to brief the Special Committee annually, commencing at its 2017 session, on the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009;

4. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to send a letter to the President of the General Assembly recalling the seventieth anniversary of the International Court of Justice and welcoming the events planned to commemorate the occasion;

5. *Recommends* that the General Assembly mark the seventieth anniversary of the International Court of Justice by means of the commemorative draft resolution, recommended by the Special Committee,[106] to be adopted at its seventy-first session.

RESOLUTION 71/147

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/514, para. 11)[107]

71/147. Commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of the International Court of Justice

The General Assembly,

Mindful that, in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, all Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered,

Bearing in mind the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[108] and the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes,[109]

Recognizing the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels,

Recalling that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Noting that 2016 marks the seventieth anniversary of the inaugural sitting of the Court,

Noting with appreciation the special commemorative event held at The Hague in April 2016 to celebrate the anniversary,

1. *Solemnly commends* the International Court of Justice for the important role that it has played as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations over the past 70 years in adjudicating disputes among States, and recognizes the value of its work;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Court for the measures adopted to operate an increased workload with maximum efficiency;

3. *Stresses* the desirability of finding practical ways and means to strengthen the Court, taking into consideration, in particular, the needs resulting from its workload;

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[106] Ibid., para. 92.

[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Zambia on behalf of the Bureau.

[108] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[109] Resolution 37/10, annex.

4. *Encourages* States to continue considering recourse to the Court by means available under its Statute, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the Court in accordance with its Statute;

5. *Calls upon* States to consider means of strengthening the Court's work, including by supporting the Secretary-General's Trust Fund to Assist States in the Settlement of Disputes through the International Court of Justice on a voluntary basis, in order to enable the Fund to carry on and to strengthen its support to the countries which submit their disputes to the Court;

6. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the work of the Court, and urges that efforts be continued through available means to encourage public awareness in the teaching, study and wider dissemination of the activities of the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, in view of both its judiciary and advisory functions.

RESOLUTION 71/148

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/515, para. 7)[110]

71/148. The rule of law at the national and international levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/118 of 14 December 2015,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Reaffirming that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate the rule of law are undertaken in accordance with the Charter, and stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building,

Convinced that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

Reaffirming the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

Convinced that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

Recalling paragraph 134 (*e*) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[111]

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Liechtenstein on behalf of the Bureau.

[111] Resolution 60/1.

1. *Recalls* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, held during the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, and the declaration adopted at that meeting,[112] takes note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 41 of the declaration,[113] and requests the Sixth Committee to continue its consideration of ways and means of further developing the linkages between the rule of law and the three pillars of the United Nations;

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts to strengthen the rule of law through voluntary pledges, encourages all States to consider making pledges, individually or jointly, based on their national priorities, and also encourages those States that have made pledges to continue to exchange information, knowledge and best practices in this regard;

3. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities;[114]

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to accord high priority to rule of law activities;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification, and further reaffirms that States shall abide by all of their obligations under international law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the imperative of upholding and promoting the rule of law at the international level in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Further reaffirms* its commitment to work tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[115] and recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development;

8. *Recognizes* the role of multilateral treaty processes in advancing the rule of law, recalls the constructive debate held on this subtopic in the Sixth Committee during the seventieth session of the General Assembly, and in this regard:

(*a*) Reaffirms its support for the annual treaty event organized by the Secretary-General, and welcomes the organization of workshops on treaty practice by the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, both at the regional level and at United Nations Headquarters, as an important capacity-building initiative, and invites States to continue to support this activity;

(*b*) Commends the Secretary-General for his review of the regulations giving effect to Article 102 of the Charter, and takes note of the recommendations for consideration by the Sixth Committee contained in his annual report;[116]

(*c*) Welcomes the efforts made to develop and enhance the United Nations electronic treaty database, providing online access to comprehensive information on the depositary functions of the Secretary-General and the registration and publication of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and encourages the continuation of such efforts in the future, while bearing in mind that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies;

(*d*) Recognizes the importance of the legal publications prepared by the Treaty Section, takes note of the information provided by the Secretary-General in his annual report,[117] and stresses the need to update the *Summary of Practice of the Secretary-General as Depositary of Multilateral Treaties* in the light of these new developments and practices;

9. *Recalls* the constructive debate held on the subtopic "Sharing national practices of States in the implementation of multilateral treaties" in the Sixth Committee during the seventy-first session of the General

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[112] Resolution 67/1.

[113] A/68/213/Add.1.

[114] A/71/169.

[115] Resolution 70/1.

[116] A/71/169, sect. II.D.

[117] Ibid., sect. II.E.

Assembly, welcomes the technical assistance provided by the United Nations system to Member States, upon their request, in the implementation of multilateral treaties at the national level as a tangible contribution to strengthening the rule of law at both the national and international levels, and commends the efforts made by States in this regard;

10. *Also recalls* the constructive debate held on the subtopic "Practical measures to facilitate access to justice for all, including for the poorest and most vulnerable" in the Sixth Committee during the seventy-first session, which highlighted, inter alia, the importance of appropriate tools and measures to promote the legal empowerment of individuals, and recognizes the role of this subtopic in advancing the rule of law;

11. *Welcomes* the dialogue initiated by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General with Member States on the topic "Promoting the rule of law at the international level", and calls for the continuation of this dialogue with a view to fostering the rule of law at the international level;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities, emphasizes that further technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives, focused on increasing and improving the participation of Member States in the multilateral treaty process, should be examined, and invites States to support these activities;

13. *Stresses* the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the national level and the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building in order to develop, reinforce and maintain domestic institutions active in the promotion of rule of law at the national and international levels, subject to national ownership, strategies and priorities;

14. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients, and reiterates its call for greater evaluation of the effectiveness of such activities, including possible measures to improve the effectiveness of those capacity-building activities;

15. *Calls*, in this context, for dialogue to be enhanced among all stakeholders, with a view to placing national perspectives at the centre of rule of law assistance in order to strengthen national ownership, while recognizing that rule of law activities must be anchored in a national context and that States have different national experiences in the development of their systems of the rule of law, taking into account their legal, political, socioeconomic, cultural, religious and other local specificities, while also recognizing that there are common features founded on international norms and standards;

16. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to systematically address, as appropriate, aspects of the rule of law in relevant activities, including the participation of women in rule of law-related activities, recognizing the importance of the rule of law to virtually all areas of United Nations engagement;

17. *Expresses full support* for the overall coordination and coherence role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group within the United Nations system, within existing mandates, supported by the Rule of Law Unit and under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in a timely manner, his next annual report on United Nations rule of law activities, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 63/128 of 11 December 2008, addressing, in a balanced manner, the national and international dimensions of the rule of law;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of restoring confidence in the rule of law as a key element of transitional justice;

20. *Recalls* the commitment of Member States to take all necessary steps to provide fair, transparent, effective, non-discriminatory and accountable services that promote access to justice for all, including legal aid, encourages further dialogue and the sharing of national practices and expertise in strengthening the rule of law through access to justice, including with regard to the provision of birth registration for all, appropriate registration and documentation of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and stateless persons, and legal aid, where appropriate, in both criminal and civil proceedings, and in this regard recognizes the role of knowledge and technology, including in judicial systems, and stresses the need to intensify the assistance extended to Governments upon their request;

21. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the sharing of national practices and of inclusive dialogue, welcomes the proposals made by the Secretary-General, inviting Member States to voluntarily exchange national best practices on the rule of law in informal meetings and on an electronic depository of best practices on the United Nations rule of law website, and invites Member States to do so;

22. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to continue to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;

23. *Invites* the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit to continue their dialogue with all Member States by interacting with them in a regular, transparent and inclusive manner, in particular in informal briefings, and welcomes the informal briefings held during the seventieth session;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further elaborate on a review of the regulations giving effect to Article 102 of the Charter, taking into account recent developments, and to prepare a report on the registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter, to be submitted well in advance of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly;

25. *Stresses* the need for the Rule of Law Unit to carry out its tasks in an effective and sustainable manner and the need to provide it with reasonable means required to that effect;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", and invites Member States to focus their comments during the upcoming Sixth Committee debate on the subtopic "Ways and means to further disseminate international law to strengthen the rule of law".

RESOLUTION 71/149

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/516, para. 9)[118]

71/149. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Recalling its resolutions 64/117 of 16 December 2009, 65/33 of 6 December 2010, 66/103 of 9 December 2011, 67/98 of 14 December 2012, 68/117 of 16 December 2013, 69/124 of 10 December 2014 and 70/119 of 14 December 2015,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments and observers and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth to seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,[119]

Recognizing the diversity of views expressed by States and the need for further consideration towards a better understanding of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,

Reiterating its commitment to fighting impunity, and noting the views expressed by States that the legitimacy and credibility of the use of universal jurisdiction are best ensured by its responsible and judicious application consistent with international law,

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Kenya on behalf of the Bureau.

[119] See A/C.6/64/SR.12, 13 and 25 and A/C.6/64/SR.1–28/Corrigendum, A/C.6/65/SR.10–12, 27 and 28; A/C.6/66/SR.12, 13, 17 and 29; A/C.6/67/SR.12, 13, 24 and 25; A/C.6/68/SR.12–14 and 23; A/C.6/69/SR.11, 12 and 28; A/C.6/70/SR.12, 13 and 27; and A/C.6/71/SR.13–15 and 31.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared on the basis of comments and observations of Governments and relevant observers;[120]

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of this topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decides to establish, at its seventy-second session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction;

3. *Invites* Member States and relevant observers, as appropriate, to submit, before 28 April 2017, information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties and their national legal rules and judicial practice, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report based on such information and observations;

4. *Decides* that the working group shall be open to all Member States and that relevant observers to the General Assembly will be invited to participate in the work of the working group;

5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".

RESOLUTION 71/150

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/517, para. 7)[121]

71/150. The law of transboundary aquifers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/124 of 11 December 2008, 66/104 of 9 December 2011 and 68/118 of 16 December 2013,

Noting the major importance of the subject of the law of transboundary aquifers in the relations of States and the need for reasonable and proper management of transboundary aquifers, a vitally important natural resource, through international cooperation for present and future generations,

Noting also that the provisions of the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers have been taken into account in relevant instruments such as the Guarani Aquifer Agreement signed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay on 2 August 2010, and the Model Provisions on Transboundary Groundwaters adopted by the sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on 29 November 2012,

Recognizing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[122] includes a goal on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Noting the establishment of the High-level Panel on Water by the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank,

Commending the efforts made by the International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in order for the Member States to draw more attention to and to deepen understanding of the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers,[123] in particular through organizing a series of training courses on the application of the draft articles as well as compiling an inventory of and evaluating the world's transboundary aquifer systems,

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[120] A/71/111; see also A/70/125, A/69/174, A/68/113, A/67/116, A/66/93 and Add.1 and A/65/181.

[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Japan on behalf of the Bureau.

[122] Resolution 70/1.

[123] Resolution 68/118, annex.

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (*a*), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the comments of Governments and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-third, sixty-sixth, sixty-eighth and seventy-first sessions of the General Assembly on this topic,[124]

1. *Commends* to the attention of Governments the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers annexed to its resolution 68/118 as guidance for bilateral or regional agreements and arrangements for the proper management of transboundary aquifers;

2. *Encourages* the International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its contribution by providing further scientific and technical assistance upon the consent of the recipient State and within its mandate;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "The law of transboundary aquifers".

RESOLUTION 71/151

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/518, para. 9)[125]

71/151. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, in all its aspects, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[126] which enhances the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and recalling the first, second, third, fourth and fifth biennial reviews of the Strategy, on 4 and 5 September 2008, 8 September 2010, 28 and 29 June 2012, 12 and 13 June 2014 and 30 June and 1 July 2016, respectively, and the debates that were held on those occasions,[127]

Recalling its resolutions 62/272 of 5 September 2008, 64/297 of 8 September 2010, 66/282 of 29 June 2012, 68/276 of 13 June 2014 and 70/291 of 1 July 2016,

Recalling also its resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[128]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[129]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[130] and reaffirming, in particular, the section on terrorism,

Recalling further the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994

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[124] See A/C.6/63/SR.16–19 and 26, A/C.6/66/SR.16 and 29, A/C.6/68/SR.16 and 29 and A/C.6/71/SR.18, 19 and 33. See also A/66/116 and Add.1 and A/68/172.

[125] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

[126] Resolution 60/288.

[127] See A/62/PV.117–120, A/64/PV.116 and 117, A/66/PV.118–120, A/68/PV.94–97 and A/70/PV.108–110.

[128] Resolution 50/6.

[129] Resolution 55/2.

[130] Resolution 60/1.

Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

Recalling all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since,

Reaffirming also its strong condemnation of the atrocious and deliberate attacks that have occurred against United Nations offices in various parts of the world,

Affirming that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and must adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

Noting the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Mindful also of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and effectively suppress international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reiterating its call upon States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Emphasizing that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

Reaffirming that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Noting recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism,

Noting also regional and subregional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions, *Recalling* its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000, 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 57/27 of 19 November 2002, 58/81 of 9 December 2003, 59/46 of 2 December 2004, 60/43 of 8 December 2005, 61/40 of 4 December 2006, 62/71 of 6 December 2007, 63/129 of 11 December 2008, 64/118 of 16 December 2009, 65/34 of 6 December 2010, 66/105 of 9 December 2011 and 67/99 of 14 December 2012 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling also that, in the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted in Tehran on 31 August 2012,[131] the Heads of State or Government reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,[132] as well as other relevant initiatives,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005, 61/171 of 19 December 2006, 62/159 of 18 December 2007, 63/185 of 18 December 2008, 64/168 of 18 December 2009, 65/221 of 21 December 2010, 66/171 of 19 December 2011, 68/178 of 18 December 2013 and 70/148 of 17 December 2015,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General[133] and the oral report of the Chair of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on its work during the seventy-first session,[134]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[126] as well as the resolutions relating to the first, second, third, fourth and fifth biennial reviews of the Strategy,[135] in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, looks forward to the sixth biennial review, in 2018, and in this regard recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider, in particular, the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of General Assembly resolution 51/210;

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[131] A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I, paras. 225 and 226.

[132] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, para. 161.

[133] A/71/182 and Add.1 and 2.

[134] See A/C.6/71/SR.31.

[135] Resolutions 62/272, 64/297, 66/282, 68/276 and 70/291.

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Expresses concern* at the increase in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concessions by terrorist groups, and expresses the need to address this issue;

9. *Expresses grave concern* over the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, namely, individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or providing or receiving terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict, emphasizes the need for States to address this issue, including through the implementation of their international obligations, and underlines the importance of United Nations capacity-building and facilitation of capacity-building in accordance with existing mandates to assist States, including those in the most affected regions, upon their request;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for States to cooperate resolutely against international terrorism by taking speedy and effective measures to eliminate this scourge, and in this regard calls upon all States, in accordance with their obligations under applicable international law and the Charter, to deny safe haven and bring to justice or, where appropriate, extradite, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, the perpetrators of terrorist acts or any person who supports, facilitates or participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning or preparation of terrorist acts;

11. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

12. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols, and Security Council resolutions, including Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice, and recalls the General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism;

13. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

14. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[136] the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[137] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[138] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[139] and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

15. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[140] the International Convention for

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[136] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[137] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider and Adopt Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment).

[138] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21).

[139] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22).

[140] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[141] the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the national legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to that end;

16. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 15 above;

17. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of General Assembly resolution 70/120 of 14 December 2015, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

18. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

19. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

20. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

21. *Notes* that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre is performing its duties within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in New York and that the Centre is supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and encourages all Member States to collaborate with the Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities within the Task Force;

22. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building;

23. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

24. *Decides* to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions on the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

25. *Recognizes* the efforts of Member States towards resolving any outstanding issues, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts during the intersessional period;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

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[141] Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.

RESOLUTION 71/152

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/522, para. 8)[142]

71/152. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[143]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[144] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[145] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 12 of its report;[143]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions, and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities and if violations occur to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Notes* the problems experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[146] and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

4. *Requests* the host country to consider removing the remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the long-standing positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

5. *Recalls* article IV of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[145] and notes the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States;

6. *Notes* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement and in a timely manner, to enable travel to New York on United Nations business and that the

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[142] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[143] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/71/26).

[144] Resolution 22 A (I).

[145] See resolution 169 (II).

[146] A/AC.154/355, annex.

Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

7. *Also notes* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States since the time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings, and invites the host country to inform the Committee, as appropriate, of efforts to address such difficulties;

8. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some Permanent Missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, and welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those Permanent Missions;

9. *Stresses* the need for the Permanent Missions and the United Nations to benefit from appropriate banking services, and anticipates that the host country will continue to assist the Permanent Missions accredited to the United Nations and their staff in obtaining such services;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and expects that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

11. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country, and recalls that the Secretary-General may bring to the attention of the Committee issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;[144]

13. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) and, in this framework, to continue to consider additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

RESOLUTION 71/153

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/527, para. 7)[147]

71/153. Observer status for the Conference of Ministers of Justice of the Ibero-American Countries in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference of Ministers of Justice of the Ibero-American Countries,

1. *Decides* to invite the Conference of Ministers of Justice of the Ibero-American Countries to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

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[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay.

RESOLUTION 71/154

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/528, para. 7)[148]

71/154. Observer status for the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/155

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/529, para. 7)[149]

71/155. Observer status for the Pacific Islands Development Forum in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Development Forum,

1. *Decides* to invite the Pacific Islands Development Forum to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/156

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/530, para. 9)[150]

71/156. Observer status for the International Chamber of Commerce in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994,

Considering the unique importance of the International Chamber of Commerce, created in 1919, due to its historical specificities and its special role and authority as a representative of the business community in more than 120 countries,

Stressing the need, frequently noted by the United Nations, to give greater opportunities to the business community to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the Organization,

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[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Uruguay.

[149] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belgium, Cuba, Fiji, Germany, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Tuvalu.

[150] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Guatemala, Kenya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Morocco, Netherlands, Palau, Romania, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

Emphasizing that the present resolution does not change the criteria established in decision 49/426,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Chamber of Commerce,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Chamber of Commerce to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 71/157

Adopted at the 62nd plenary meeting, on 13 December 2016, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/71/521, para. 7)[151]

71/157. Observer status for the Central American Bank for Economic Integration in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Central American Bank for Economic Integration,

1. *Decides* to invite the Central American Bank for Economic Integration to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

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[151] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Spain.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items[a]

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.

2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.

3. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-first session of the General Assembly:

   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.

4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.

6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.

8. General debate.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

9. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

10. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS.

11. Sport for development and peace.

12. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.

13. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.

14. Culture of peace.

15. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order.

19. Sustainable development.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

28. Report of the Security Council.

29. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.

30. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.

31. Prevention of armed conflict.

32. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.

33. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic.

34. The situation in the Middle East.

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[a] Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

35. Question of Palestine.

36. The situation in Afghanistan.

37. The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan.

38. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte.

39. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

40. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.

41. Question of Cyprus.

42. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

43. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

44. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

45. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.

46. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.

61. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

C. Development of Africa

62. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:

    (*a*) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (*b*) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

D. Promotion of human rights

63. Report of the Human Rights Council.

66. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

68. Promotion and protection of human rights:

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

69. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:

    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (*b*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (*c*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (*d*) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

70. Report of the International Court of Justice.

71. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

72. Report of the International Criminal Court.

73. Oceans and the law of the sea:

    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (*b*) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

87. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965.

G. Disarmament

88. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

109. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

110. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

111. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.

112. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.

113. Appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

114. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:

    (*a*) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (*b*) Election of the members of the International Law Commission;

    (*c*) Election of five members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;

    (*d*) Election of fourteen members of the Human Rights Council.

115. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:

    (*g*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (*h*) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit;

    (*i*) Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;

    (*j*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme;

    (*k*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

    (*l*) Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal.

116. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.

117. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

118. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

119. Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

120. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

122. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council.

123. Strengthening of the United Nations system:

(*a*) Strengthening of the United Nations system;

(*b*) Central role of the United Nations system in global governance.

124. United Nations reform: measures and proposals.

125. Multilingualism.

126. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

(*a*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;

(*b*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

(*c*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization;

(*d*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;

(*e*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System;

(*f*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States;

(*g*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(*h*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

(*i*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

(*j*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

(*k*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;

(*l*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

(*m*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;

(*n*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

(*o*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

(*p*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

(*q*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

(*r*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

(*s*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community;

(*t*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;

(*u*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;

(*v*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

(*w*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative;

(*x*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM;

(*y*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States;

(*z*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration.

127. Global health and foreign policy.

128. International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

129. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

130. Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him.

131. Global awareness of the tragedies of irregular migrants in the Mediterranean basin, with specific emphasis on Syrian asylum seekers.

135. Programme planning.

First Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

G. Disarmament

89. Reduction of military budgets.

90. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

91. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

92. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe.

93. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

94. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

95. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

96. Prevention of an arms race in outer space:

(*a*) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;

(*b*) No first placement of weapons in outer space.

97. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament.

98. General and complete disarmament:

(*a*) Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

(*b*) Further measures in the field of disarmament for the prevention of an arms race on the seabed and the ocean floor and in the subsoil thereof;

(*c*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*d*) Notification of nuclear tests;

(*e*) Relationship between disarmament and development;

(*f*) Regional disarmament;

(*g*) Transparency in armaments;

(*h*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(*i*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

(*j*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

(*k*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

(*l*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons;

(*m*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

(*n*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(*o*) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;

(*p*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

(*q*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

(*r*) Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

(*s*) Reducing nuclear danger;

(*t*) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(*u*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;

(*v*) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;

(*w*) Missiles;

(*x*) Disarmament and non-proliferation education;

(*y*) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

(*z*) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

(*aa*) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

(*bb*) The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;

(*cc*) Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

(*dd*) Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

(*ee*) Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources;

(*ff*) The Arms Trade Treaty;

(*gg*) Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

(*hh*) United action with renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

(*ii*) Preventing and combating illicit brokering activities;

(*jj*) Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;

(*kk*) Taking forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations;

(*ll*) Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament;

(*mm*) Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

(*nn*) Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons;

(*oo*) Humanitarian pledge for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons;

(*pp*) Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world;

(*qq*) Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

99. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

(*a*) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(*b*) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(*c*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*d*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(*e*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(*g*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(*h*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament.

100. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

(*a*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(*b*) Report of the Disarmament Commission.

101. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

102. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

103. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

104. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

105. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

135. Programme planning.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

47. Effects of atomic radiation.

48. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

49. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

50. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories.

51. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

52. Comprehensive review of special political missions.

53. Questions relating to information.

54. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

55. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

56. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

57. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

58. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

135. Programme planning.

Second Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

16. Information and communications technologies for development.

17. Macroeconomic policy questions:

    (*a*) International trade and development;

    (*b*) International financial system and development;

    (*c*) External debt sustainability and development.

18. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development.

19. Sustainable development:
    - (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;
    - (*b*) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
    - (*c*) Disaster risk reduction;
    - (*d*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;
    - (*e*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
    - (*f*) Convention on Biological Diversity;
    - (*g*) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    - (*h*) Harmony with Nature;
    - (*i*) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy;
    - (*j*) Sustainable mountain development.

20. Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

21. Globalization and interdependence:
    - (*a*) Globalization and interdependence;
    - (*b*) International migration and development.

22. Groups of countries in special situations:
    - (*a*) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
    - (*b*) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.

23. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:
    - (*a*) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017);
    - (*b*) Industrial development cooperation.

24. Operational activities for development:
    - (*a*) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
    - (*b*) South-South cooperation for development.

25. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

59. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

135. Programme planning.

Third Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

26. Social development:
    (*a*) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;
    (*b*) Literacy for life: shaping future agendas.
27. Advancement of women.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

60. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

D. Promotion of human rights

63. Report of the Human Rights Council.
64. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:
    (*a*) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;
    (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.
65. Rights of indigenous peoples:
    (*a*) Rights of indigenous peoples;
    (*b*) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
66. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:
    (*a*) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;
    (*b*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
67. Right of peoples to self-determination.
68. Promotion and protection of human rights:
    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;
    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;
    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

106. Crime prevention and criminal justice.
107. International drug control.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

135. Programme planning.

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    - (*e*) Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;
    - (*f*) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee.

121. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

132. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:
    - (*a*) United Nations;
    - (*b*) United Nations peacekeeping operations;
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    - (*j*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
    - (*k*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
    - (*l*) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;
    - (*m*) United Nations Population Fund;
    - (*n*) United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
    - (*o*) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
    - (*p*) United Nations Office for Project Services;
    - (*q*) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);
    - (*r*) International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994;

(*s*) International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

(*t*) International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;

(*u*) United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.

133. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

134. Programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017.

135. Programme planning.

136. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.

137. Pattern of conferences.

138. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.

139. Human resources management.

140. Joint Inspection Unit.

141. United Nations common system.

142. United Nations pension system.

143. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

144. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

145. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

146. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

147. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991.

148. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

149. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

150. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei.

151. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.

152. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.

153. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

154. Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

155. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.

156. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

157. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

158. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

159. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

160. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:
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    - (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

161. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.

162. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.

163. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

164. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009).

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75. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.

76. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-ninth session.

77. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

78. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session.

79. Diplomatic protection.

80. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm.

81. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

82. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

83. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

84. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

85. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction.

86. The law of transboundary aquifers.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

108. Measures to eliminate international terrorism.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

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135. Programme planning.

145. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

165. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

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170. Observer status for the Conference of Ministers of Justice of the Ibero-American Countries in the General Assembly.
171. Observer status for the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America in the General Assembly.
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173. Observer status for the International Chamber of Commerce in the General Assembly.
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